

PERSONAL COLUMN

If some military person, amid the whirl of helicopter gunships, were to try to interest us in a wooden contraption with a trigger and a sideways bit that went "twang", we would know what to say. "Too late", we would tell him, patting him on his iron casque as he was led away, "cross-bows are out."

I feel a bit the same about the whole 16-plus examination business. And particularly so about that outstanding innovation of the early 1970s, the GCSE.

The first thing to be said about the GCSE is wholly in its favour. As an examination, it is far better than its predecessors. It reflects better thinking about the nature of assessment and incorporates a better-directed commitment to raising the general performance of the school system. And the SEC booklets are rather nice too.

So far so good. But the GCSE has three snags. The first is a narrowly financial one; only worth mentioning because money seems to be at the root of all educational policy-making these days. In 1983-84, we spent some £35 million on examinations at O level and CSE.

This may not seem much. "Derisory" is the term salary negotiators use for such sums. But in that same 1983-84, secondary schools in England and Wales spent just under £40 million on library and text books. Knock off money spent on books for sixth forms and we are left with something like level-pegging.

Not for long. In 1984-85, money spent on examining at 16-plus went up and money spent on books went down, to £38.168 million to be precise.

Now for the GCSE. As a society we have experts who, poring over the entrails of a computer print-out, can tell us to two decimal points what each education authority ought to spend on blowing its nose or painting its schools. But over the GCSE an odd uncertainty develops. The best guessers I know suggest that the cost in fees for the new examination will be from 50 to 100 per cent more than those for 1984-85: say £20 to £40 million more.

To those costs have to be added once-for-all equipping costs, of £50 million or thereabouts. Then there are grey areas, such as the cost of training, replacing or paying



PETER NEWSAM

Wide of the mark

'Simplicity is not for us until it is recognized that examining at 16 marks only one stage in a continuous process'

teachers who take part in extra assessment or course-work in the years to come.

The local authority associations are reported as adding all this up to a bid for £100 million from Government. They will be lucky. And they will be lucky too if the annual cost of a GCSE examinations splurge comes to less than between one and a half to two times the cost of all the books used in secondary schools in the previous five years.

The second snag about the GCSE is obscured by arguments about its timing. Admittedly, it is not easy for teachers to prepare conscientiously for syllabuses that they have not yet received. The stress this causes leads to calls for delay. But the flurry about the timing of the GCSE obscures the fact that we no longer need it. Well do we?

At least one part of Government has now decided that we are to have an education and training system that takes all young people up to the age of 18. From all different directions where educational sense is talked, the need to think of a continuum from 14-18 is being pointed out; and sooner rather than later the truth must surely be accepted elsewhere that a complex examination system at 16-plus is no longer needed to sort out what happens to people next.

At 16-plus, young people either go on in school or FE, neither of whom want elaborate certificates, or to MSC schemes, which find out what they need to know during training. Increasingly rarely, 16-year-olds

will be going on to jobs. For those, employers are far more interested in whether young people turn up on time and are well-motivated than in the bits of paper they bring with them.

But will the very existence of a complex examination system at 16 spur on the troops? Unlikely. The more firmly a 14-18 continuum is established the weaker the incentive to a pupil to do anything special at 16.

Now it may be that one purpose of the GCSE is to have an exam which tests the children and, through their performance, tests the performance of their teachers and will suggest to higher authority the appropriate sticks or carrots to apply to the appropriate parts of the educational anatomy. But there are less inefficient and insensitive ways of achieving higher standards in school.

A N Whitehead put the point succinctly in 1936: "No system of external tests which aims primarily at examining individuals can result in anything but educational waste. Primarily it is the schools and not the scholars which should be inspected." Just so. If better schools are wanted, as they are, the aim is to be pursued directly.

The third snag about the GCSE is a practical one. It is a noble aim to raise 80 to 90 per cent of the 16-plus age group to the educational standards now reached by only 50 per cent. But on what educational foundation is this improvement, which

ought to be achievable, to be built? In some urban areas, battered by the events of the last year, attendance of 15-year-olds is now below 75 per cent.

A fair proportion of the bottom 40 per cent, in terms of attainment, inhabit our inner cities. And to achieve an average or above standard at school it must at least be necessary to go there with some regularity. There is an element of self-deception in supposing otherwise.

If not the GCSE, what is needed at 16-plus? Something simple, cheap, rigorous and clearly understood.

Why not a Swedish solution? Somewhere in the mid-1960s, the Swedes realized they were entering a 14-18 world. They did sensible things with the curriculum by incorporating a proper measure of technical expertise for all and they kept their pupil profiling, but dropped the elaborate 16-plus external assessment.

So now each core subject is marked in school on a five point scale. The total marks are then divided by the number of subjects taken. And that final average mark is a factor when applying for the appropriate course either in school, college or other form of training.

Such simplicity is not for us, perhaps, until it is recognized that examining at 16 marks only one stage, increasingly of historical rather than actual significance, in a continuous 14-18 education and training process. One safe prediction is that the GCSE will prove to be a time-consuming, expensive, carefully-designed and profoundly well-intentioned irrelevance.

The GCSE is the right examination in the wrong decade: the gold-plated cross-bow of the late 1980s.

NEXT WEEK

What is normal?

TES reporters find out how teachers are settling down after the Acs deal

First Muslim-aided school? Report on Brent's Islamia primary school

EXTRA: Music

NOTICEBOARD

PEOPLE...

Mr John Taylor, second master of Queen Elizabeth's high school, Gainsborough, to be head of Westfield School, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr A. Wainwright, general adviser with Berkshire I.e.a., to be principal adviser for primary education with Dorset I.e.a. In succession to Mr John Linton who retires in August.

The Further Education Unit has been reconstituted for a further three years. The following have been appointed new members: Mr J. Munk, Mr I. Randall, Mr A. Warren and Mr J. Barnes.

CONFERENCES...

March 15 Personal and social education and pastoral care at William Ellis School, London, organized by the National Association of Pastoral Care in Education. Greater London region. Details from Roy Birchford, William Ellis School, Highgate Road, London NW5 1RN.

March 17 NATE conference on information technology in education at Friends Meeting House, London NW1. Speakers include Mr B. McGee, Mr J. Foster, Phyllis Gove and Olive Neville. Details from Dr Paul Rolph, College of St Mark and St John, Derriford Road, Plymouth PL6 8BH.

March 20 Council for Education in World Citizenship conference at the House of Commons on The Role of

the United Nations. Details from the conference organizer, CEWC, 15-21 Tudor Street, London EC4V 0DJ.

March 22 Child abuse - who cares? at Frankley Community High School, Rubery, Birmingham, organized by the National Association for Pastoral Care in Education, West Midlands region. Details from Beryl Starkey, Stoke Park School, Dane Road, Coventry CV2 4JW.

March 22 Defence of History Conference - Yorkshire region at Goodrich College, University of York. Speakers include Dr Austin Mitchell, Mr P. Dr John Roberts, Dr Derek Fraser and Mr B. Hyde. Details from Dr M. Cross, Department of History, University of York, Heslington, York YO1 5DD.

EVENTS...

March 8 Department of Engineering open day at Bournemouth and Poole college of further education from 10am to 4.30pm in North Road, Poole. The day will feature the full range of engineering facilities available and a "Computers in Education" display.

March 11 and April 23 The Banking Information Service is holding two regional presentations in central London (March 11) and Dorset (April 23) to which local teachers are invited. Details BIS, 10 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9AT. 01-626 9386.

March 25-27 Multicultural and antiracist teacher

education workshop. Permission of the subject curriculum for teachers and lecturers in colleges, schools and I.e.a. advisory and support services at the City of Birmingham Polytechnic. Details from Horace Lashley, Senior Education Officer, Commission for Racial Equality, Elliot House, 10/12 Allington Street, London SW1 E 5EH; tel 01-828 7022.

INFORMATION

London Chamber of Commerce Dr Kenneth Lyons is writing a centenary history of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry Education Committee, founded in 1887. He would be interested to hear from anyone with information about the early years of the scheme before 1918 and from people who have found the scheme of value in their own careers. Please write to him at Latham, Scotchman Lane, Whiston, Nr Prescot, Merseyside L35 7JB. All letters will be answered and postage refunded.

Anorexia Aid. Lynne Hoyle is preparing a booklet on anorexia for Anorexia Aid, a national self-help support group for sufferers and their families. She would like to hear from teachers who have had involvement with anorexia pupils.

as well as readers' views on what sort of information would be useful. Please write to her at 173 Wandstead Park Road, Cranbrook, Wilted, Essex.

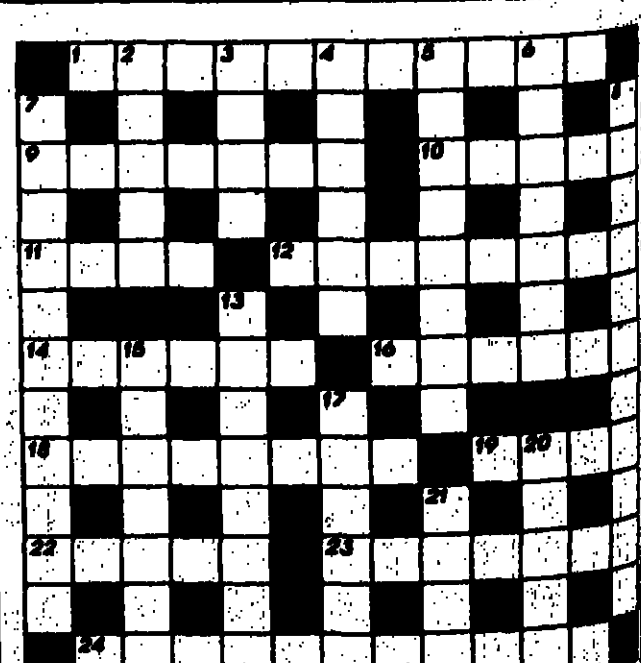
PUBLICATIONS...

Selected National Education Systems. A booklet published by the DES outlines the education systems of France, Italy, USA, Japan, Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands as an aid to international comparisons. It is free from RI/28, DES Statistics Branch, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1 7PH.

The Hearing Impaired Child in Your Class. RNID and British Association of Teachers of the Deaf booklet offers advice to teachers in ordinary schools with hearing impaired children in their classes. It is intended for use with a peripatetic or advisory teacher of the deaf and provides suggestions for further sources of information and reading. It costs £1.18 including postage and is available from the RNID, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH.

Volatile substance abuse. An information pack prepared for the Hereford and Worcester Social Services Department provides details of types of compounds, recognizing users, emergency first aid and ways of dealing with the problem. It costs £1 including postage and is available from Mr Ian Page, Social Work Consultant, Hereford and Worcester County Council, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester.

No 244 CROSSWORD by Rufus



ACROSS
1 Mixed metaphors in Mollere play (11)
9 Once in the theatre, in a - demands - his money's worth (7)
10 Cause commotion - what? Impertinence (5)
11 Prepare to put out with the turn of the tide (4)
12 He who appreciates people with good taste (8)
14 Served up? (6)
14 Wild herb found in Israel (6)
15 Quantity of coal you'd be thankful to have? (8)
19 Now this will get you nowhere (4)

DOWN
2 Question one is on Irish forces seen in the Middle East (5)
3 Payment before mountain ascent (4)
4 Asian sailors? (6)
5 Taken ill (8)
6 Is an archer of gone depth? (7)
7 Got message from him? Yes (11)
8 Tropical disease that may make one weep (6)
13 Money put in bank lately (8)

18 Altitude taken by navigators (7)
17 Let's "rain" on ancient city (8)
20 Note, likely about something but from such a source (10)
21 A lot may have from such a source (10)

Educational Supplement

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Rival unions clash over defections

by TES reporters

Nearly all members of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers at one Welsh school resigned en bloc and joined the National Union of Teachers this week.

The move, by 28 of the 32 NAS/UWT members at Llanrumney High School, Cardiff, came as schools throughout the country reported that both unions were still boycotting voluntary duties, despite last week's official pay settlement.

Mr Gilbert Rhodes, the NAS/UWT representative at the school and union member for 13 years, said: "Older hands are saying it isn't the union they joined. We feel it has not been strong enough."

The NAS/UWT has reported its rival to the TUC - complaining it is "poaching" members.

NUT recruitment material is being circulated to NAS/UWT members in Hillingdon, Hounslow and Essex, according to Mr Nigel de Gruchy, NAS/UWT general secretary. The NUT is looking into the allegation.

Meanwhile, Scottish teachers' leaders this week claimed they had won a pay deal better than any public sector group in the UK for 1985/86 and said it is superior to the England and Wales settlement.

Their two-year deal is worth nearly 15 per cent on their existing £600

million salaries bill. It will give teachers 7 per cent from last April, 2 per cent from January 1 this year and 5.5 per cent on account from April 1, 1986, pending the outcome of an independent inquiry into pay and conditions.

This inquiry was announced by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Scottish secretary, last Thursday - a move which took everyone by surprise.

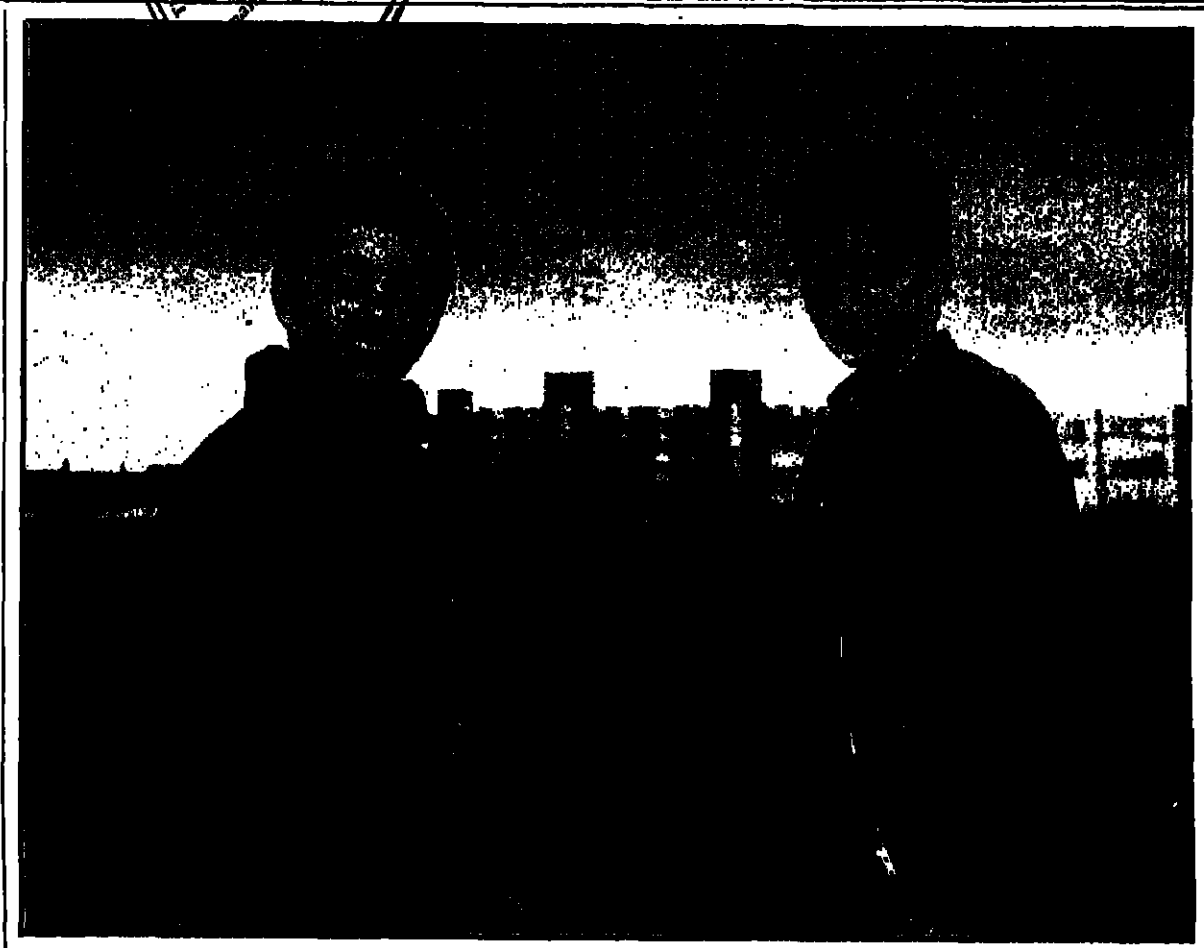
The largest union, the Educational Institute of Scotland, and the second biggest, the Scottish Secondary Teachers Association - representing over 90 per cent of teachers - will ballot their members on the agreement and recommend acceptance. Strike action has been suspended until the results are known.

Local education authority employers in England and Wales are sceptical about claims that the Scottish settlement was significantly more generous.

However, Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the NUT, said it proved the NUT had been right to reject the Acs deal agreed last week.

The non-striking Professional Association of Teachers is calling for a second seat on the Burnham pay bargaining body.

If says its membership of primary and secondary schools in England and Wales is now between 32,000 and 33,000 compared with 21,250 at the time of last year's membership review.



Figures in a flat landscape: William Beveridge, 10, and Richard Brown, 11, stand against the background of their modern heritage - a block of flats. Their school, St Mary's and St Peter's Junior in the London borough of Richmond, is near Hampton Court Palace and according to the head, Mrs Pamela Dixon, the local environment is a rich area for study. Buildings - old and new - have been a theme running through the children's recent work which has been supported by staff at St Mary's College, Twickenham.

Photo: Jon Millwood

Secondary specialists must undergo one-year course, says NAPE

Retraining key to primary transfer

by Sarah Bayliss

Secondary teachers should only transfer to primaries with a one-year retraining course behind them.

A draft policy statement from the National Association for Primary Education, which is still under discussion, fears that secondary specialists might be shifted into primary posts for the wrong reasons and without proper retraining.

It states: "Only those with a record of success should be considered". NAPE predicts that over the next 10 years, rising pupil numbers in primaries will create a need for 13,000 extra teachers and that some jobs will be filled by staff from the shrinking secondary sector.

At present there is no national programme for converting secondary into primary teachers and the initiative rests solely with the local education authorities and public sector colleges. Most existing courses are much shorter than one year.

NAPE's statement, which members are considering before it is sent out to the DES, HM Inspectorate, colleges, teacher and parent associations, says

no teacher should be forced to transfer. Preferably, they should have experience of teaching the 11 to 13s in English and, or, maths in addition to any other special subject.

The association is against part-time training and says one year should be "the minimum time between giving up full-time secondary work and taking up full-time teaching of primary children".

Of this one term should be based in a college studying child development, the "whole" primary curriculum with emphasis on English, maths and science; skills for working with parents and methods of teaching the candidate's main subject. Practical work of the "making and doing" kind should be a vital part.

Two terms should be spent working alongside successful teachers in two different primary schools. Candidates should not be counted as part of the staff establishment and should not be given full-time charge of a class.

The option of returning to secondary school teaching should be kept open.

New threat to 2,000 Liverpool jobs

by James Melkie and Mike Durham

Teachers fear up to 2,000 education jobs could be at risk in Liverpool because of another budget crisis.

Schools and colleges would bear the brunt of redundancies if massive cuts, involving 4,800 council posts, ever went ahead.

But the city's Labour leader, Mr John Hamilton, said this week: "We don't want to see any loss of jobs whatsoever." He confirmed that job losses on a large scale had been mentioned but added: "Whilst this is a calculation that can be done on paper, it is one that is unacceptable to us."

Mr Hamilton is meeting union leaders today, including representatives of the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, to explain the problems and ask for their views.

A combination of rate capping and taking over the responsibilities of



John Hamilton

other authorities could leave a £37 million shortfall on next year's budget. Education may be expected to account for £20 million savings.

Wolverhampton was this week considering whether to cut 200 jobs to pay for a switch to social services and

leisure. Northamptonshire has cut its teaching force by another 147 to save £1.6 million.

Salford says that cuts of 50 teachers in primary schools will worsen staffing ratios.

Shire counties have approved average rate increases of 20 per cent despite last week's announcement of £500 million extra Government money, "recycled" from overpending councils, in the rate support grant formula.

The legal deadline for authorities to declare precepts was Monday. Most authorities setting the highest rates are Alliance-controlled hung councils, but there are steep increases in many Conservative shire counties.

Few authorities were able to include the extra in their budgets in the time available.

THIS WEEK

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America's shame
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Get down to the horses

Education and Training: Options for Labour, the discussion paper prepared by the study group headed by Mr Barry Sheerman, MP, has now emerged from a lengthy period of gestation. Will it strike sparks among potential Labour voters and does it provide Mr Kinnock and Mr Radice with the outline of a coherent policy?

There is still some way to go to get the complementary elements of a Labour policy for education and training into a fully coherent pattern. One way of doing this - Mr Sheerman's way - is to invent a new concept, Education-and-training, and paper over the joints in what is not yet a seamless robe, by fudging the distinctions between educational and training objectives and functions. This, of course, has a great deal to be said for it: it is what people mean when they plausibly deny the false antithesis between two kinds of activity which stand at different ends of a single continuum. But seeing that, as well as talking about philosophy and principles, education-and-training policy-makers have to make sense in terms of institutions and courses, there are times when the reader is tempted to apply the heel of the hand to the forehead, Basil Fawlty style, and demand that Mr Sheerman should cut the cockle and get down to the horses.

Clearly, Mr Sheerman and his colleagues

would like to put their weight behind a modular structure, starting well before 16, which would provide a grid of academic and practical studies, with more or less work experience, which would comprehend at one end the future university or polytechnic entrant, and at the other, the least scholarly among those who leave school at 16 and enter a beefed-up two-year traineeship scheme, envisaged as a YTS with higher standards all round.

Taken together with Labour promises of more generous financial support for the 16-19s, in and out of school, the Sheerman proposals seem to indicate a larger proportion of the age group remaining within the full-time education system, with flourishing sixth-forms, tertiary colleges and non-advanced FE. There are calls for the reform and reinvigoration of apprenticeship and more skill training in which, no doubt, NAFE would participate. But while the formality of education-and-training would be enhanced, and industry's part in it be made statutory and financed by some levy or tax on employers, the group clearly was unwilling to set up the kind of college and school-based craft skill training which has become the norm in many European countries.

The discussion concludes by looking at how the strategy is to be directed and the system is to be

managed, which means getting into the arguments, at the national level, for and against a Department of Education and Training, and considering the coordination needed by services now run separately by the I.e.s.s and the MSC. The study group had to keep looking over its shoulder at the TUC. The unions are suspicious of any plan to change the MSC (especially any plan which would turn it over to the DES). They see the MSC as a power base, especially effective when there is a Labour government in power at Westminster.

The Study Group appears to lean towards a single department covering education and training at the centre and a structure of local boards in which local authorities would combine with employers and trade unions, presumably to control all post-16 education and training.

While the tone of the discussion paper is suitably partisan and larded with references to socialism and democracy, a great deal of it would not bring a blush to the cheek of Lord Young of Grafton provided, that is, that in any amalgamation of education and training, he not Sir Keith were to emerge as the new overlord. It shows just how much support is available for a YTS Mark III, properly funded (by a *taxe d'apprentissage*) and policed. Irritating as this

must be to Mr Sheerman and Lord Young, the outline of future development is becoming clear and is much less contentious than some might expect. Mind you, whether the money is forthcoming to do it in style is another matter.

What is quite clear - and not a matter of dispute between the parties - is that the money ought to be forthcoming and that it ought to be put up by industry. Every international comparison suggests that British employers have failed to make the contribution to training and staff development which society has a right to expect them to make both in terms of money spent and energies expended. The Conservatives still labour under the burden of a theoretical objection to the statutory and fiscal measures needed to make the employers do their stuff. They tell themselves that employers can be persuaded to believe that it is in their own self-interest to take as enlightened a view as their German competitors, but the stubborn facts defeat them again and again.

Important as it is, however, to get the employers to take on young people and give them a thorough training, young people also need first-class continuing education. If what the British Government now spends on the YTS could be concentrated wholly on Mr Sheerman's BT hybrid, the quality could be hugely improved.

COMMENT

Scots take the high road

Scottish teachers this week won a two-headed salaries victory. They achieved an increase of 15 per cent for the two years 1985-87; and, more important in their view, they have won their 20-month campaign in favour of an independent review of pay (though they have had to accept that conditions of service will be reviewed at the same time).

Their leaders are preening themselves that their strategy has secured a better deal than that south of the border. It is not only the size of the increase that makes Mr John Pollock, of the Educational Institute of Scotland, happy that he did not follow the path of the National Union of Teachers and lodge a pay claim for 1985-86.

He was determined above all to eschew a short-term deal which would involve lodging another claim for April 1 this year and backing it with the threat of still more industrial action. Mr Pollock intends soon to retire after more than a decade as general secretary of the union to which 80 per cent of Scottish teachers belong: he wanted a long-term legacy to leave behind him.

For nearly two years virtually no one expected the Government to concede that review because of its potential implications for public spending policy. Mrs Thatcher's much-changed Cabinet remains haunted by memories of the Clegg Commission. It is a measure therefore as much of Mr Malcolm Rifkind's skill in handling his fellow Ministers as of the unions' determination that a pay review was announced a week ago.

Mr Rifkind, as the incoming Secretary of State for Scotland, was determined to make his mark, not least in order to begin to restore the Conservatives' battered fortunes north of the border.

Mr Rifkind's initiative has brought the strikes to a speedy end. The threat to this year's national examinations is lifted. Only the ban on curricular developments, such as for the new Standard grade, survives.

A little crowing from north of the border on the part of Mr Pollock is understandable. His muscular style of negotiation has provided an illustration



and competitive spur for the NUT - but it remains to be seen whether the English or the Scottish deal works out better in the long-term.

The one factor which seems likely to affect the Aca's talks or Burnham straight away is the last tranche of the Scottish 15 per cent, payable from April of this year.

While the unions which were party to the Aca's deal for England and Wales are not disposed to quibble overmuch that the Scottish teachers will end 1985-86 roughly one half per cent better off, they can hardly ignore the additional 5.5 per cent payable in Scotland from the start of the financial year beginning in two weeks' time, and without strings. The expectation has to be that the NASUWT, NAHT *et al* will now press for something on account to match, and that it will be difficult for the local authority employers to resist.

Like the Scottish local authorities they would, of course, be expected by the Government to fund any such deal out of their own resources; but the expectation in both cases would be that they would have to seek some way of raising in advance the money set aside by the Secretaries of State for restructuring and conditions of service.

In theory at least, the Scots already negotiate pay and conditions of service in the same body, but their pay inquiry will have the same overall constraints as the Aca's negotiations.

At present, most of the English unions are hanging on to the belief that the Aca's negotiations still hold out hopes of a better deal for the teachers than could come out of a Government-appointed pay inquiry. Wait until September to discover who is right. In the end, the lateral accounting which governs the fiscal relations between England and Scotland will probably ensure that both sets of teachers enjoy increases of the same order.

Modified rapture

The Government's new Education Bill got off to a quiet start in the House of Lords on Monday, shepherded through its Second Reading by Lord Swinton and Lady Young. The most interesting speech came from Lord Beloff who - remember? - for a time had a big hand in Conservative manifesto preparations before the 1983 General Election. As a radical Conservative he might be thought to be in the ascendant, what with all these stories about what Mrs Thatcher and Mr Norman Tebbit are supposed to be cooking up for next time around. But be that as it may, it was quite clear that Lord Beloff didn't think much of Sir Keith Joseph's latest effort.

Perhaps he was just having a bad day. He was, at least, impartial in his attacks. Parent governors? "I do not myself feel that this is likely to be an important contribution to the raising of standards in our schools... One will get the kind of parent who is perhaps represented by those lucky-mouse 'mommas' who go winning to the European Court of Human Rights when anyone suggests proper chastisement for their inoffensive offspring."

Local education authorities? "If we see no reason why the local education authority should be an intermediary between the nation and its needs and the individual school and its head staff..." Teachers? "If... nurses or the medical profession... had behaved towards their patients with the degree of indifference which many teachers have shown towards their pupils, either in moral or academic fields, one can only assume that our hospitals today would be littered with the dead and dying."

The Secretary of State's judgement would have to be exercised within the terms of Section 13 of the Education Act and no doubt with the knowledge

of Lord Beloff had his way the election manifesto would promise a complete state take-over of the maintained system, with teachers as civil servants in a reconstructed profession under the direct control of the Secretary of State. Needless to say, many other noble Lords took a different view, none more so than Lord Alexander of Potterhill - Sir William as was - who pungently attacked the excessive detail in the clauses on school government and the reduction in the powers of the I.e.s.s.

As speaker after speaker took a turn around the question of parent governors, it was difficult to sense any of the enthusiasm which this reform is meant to arouse. Teacher appraisal, on the other hand, was welcomed by most speakers as an idea if not an immediately practical proposition.

The fact is that the consumerism projected in this Bill in the form of more, and more allegedly powerful, parent governors is a pale shadow of the Real Thing - the chimera of an open market for education which the voucher lobby would so dearly like Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues to chase. Sir Keith Joseph himself has only taken up this institutionalized form of parent power in his disappointment at finding that the voucher is not practical politics.

But a doctrinaire's second best choice rarely gives him or his ideological backers much satisfaction. This Bill will get a warmer welcome from the soft centre (in all parties) than the hard-headed extremists because it so obviously mistakes shadow for substance.

Who's to say no?

On page 24, Angela Neustatter describes a visit to the new Islamic school in Brent, a primary school set up by a group of Muslims, which has applied for Aided status. Brent I.e.s.s. is expected to recommend that this should be granted, and it will then be up to Sir Keith Joseph to decide whether this change from the private to the maintained sector should be allowed to go ahead.

The Secretary of State's judgement would have to be exercised within the terms of Section 13 of the Education Act and no doubt with the knowledge

which all ministers and their civil servants now have, that the lawyers will not hesitate to apply for judicial review by the High Court if they think he has exercised quasi-judicial functions contrary to law.

Although many people would be sorry to see the emergence of a network of Aided Muslim schools, because they would see this as a step backwards in terms of multicultural education, it is obvious that Muslims must be allowed to exercise the same rights to establish their own schools under the law as are now extended to Roman Catholics and Anglicans and Jews. It would be cruel to discriminate against Muslims in the name of anti-discrimination.

The arguments which the Muslims put forward in support of their case for their own schools are essentially the same as those put forward over the years by the Christian churches - they want to be able to educate the children within a social environment which respects and reinforces the values they subscribe to. If they can claim that this means setting up their own schools, not just withdrawing their children for religious education, that view is one which the 1944 Education Act was drafted to respect, and till it is amended the law must take its course.

There are some important provisos. The school will be open to inspection. It will have to observe the Equal Opportunities legislation. The DES has recently crossed swords with several private schools where it has taken the view that they failed to meet basic curricular standards.

As for the Muslims themselves, they may hope by setting up their own schools to escape the tide of secularization which threatens to engulf them. If so, they may soon find they have misjudged the situation. Their schools will have to live in the same world as everybody else's schools, and their children will have to come to terms with the realities of modern Britain. This said, why should they not have their own schools?

no comment
She had aimed low in career terms after leaving Oxford, but she knew she could do more than merely teach. Alison Coles on the poet Wendy Cope. *The Guardian*, February 26, 1985

In brief

BAALPE stays

The National Union of Teachers failed last week to have the 400-strong British Association of Advisers and Lecturers in Physical Education removed from the Salisbury committee, which negotiates salaries for education service professionals. The Court of Appeal ruled that BAALPE was a bona fide trade union committed to collective bargaining.

Injury award

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board has given an award to a pupil injured by a teacher for the first time in its 22-year history. The Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment said this week. The family of Nottingham schoolboy Steve McKevitt, 15, have been awarded £200 as an interim payment for out-of-pocket expenses.

Radice letter

Mr Giles Radice, the Shadow education secretary, has told Mr Thatcher in a letter to replace Sir Keith Joseph with an Education Secretary able to command the respect of teachers, parents and local authorities. He also calls for the abolition of plans to introduce education vouchers.

Job still open

Mr Ray Honeyford's former post as head at Drummond Middle School, Bradford, is being re-advertised because no suitable teacher has yet been found. Only 14 applications, including one from the United States, were received for the £13,023 - £14,979 a year job.

Scots option

The review group set up by the Government to rationalize the vocational qualifications system may recommend that Scottish awards should be subjected to supervision from London. It is considering whether the Scottish - and possibly, Northern Ireland - vocational qualifications need to be dovetailed into an all-Britain system to be overseen by a new quango.

Fees rise

A rise of about three per cent in tuition fees for students on higher and further education courses in the next academic year was recommended by the Government last week.

Police backed

The Conservative MP for Billerica, Mr Harvey Proctor, wants the police to have a statutory right to go into schools. He told a Monday Club meeting in Sherborne, Dorset, last week that 22 inner London schools refused to admit policemen. He said children needed to know about their rights, law and order and crime prevention.

Science call

More girls would get to the top if they gained qualifications in science and technology, Mr Chris Patten, Education Minister of State and father of three girls, told Friends of St Felix School, Southwold on Monday.

Key concern

Education now ties with the health service for second place in the league of voters' worries, according to a MORI opinion poll published last week. Unemployment is top.

Parent's guide

The rapidly changing education scene of the 1980s is the subject of *A Parent's Guide to Education*, written by *Guardian* contributor Maureen O'Connor, which is published in paperback by Fontana at £3.95 this week.

Training worry

The working group initiated by the Universities Council for Education of Teachers to determine a model for a General Teachers' Council has identified the question of teachers working under non-school regulations and teacher training as key issues to be tackled. *The Guardian*, February 26, 1985

NEWS

Young points the finger . . .

schools face in instilling particular qualities such as respect and good citizenship . . . education is just as important for motivation as it is for acquiring skills.

"Schools should be a learning experience, a place where the young

grow in mind as well as body, a place that alongside other learning, brings an awareness of how wealth is created."

Lord Young was delivering the annual Barnett lecture, which commemorates Canon Samuel Barnett, a social reformer before the First World

War. Earlier, Lord Young had suggested that the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative, the programme of technical courses in secondary schools which he launched, could make a considerable contribution to creating enterprises in the inner cities.

Mark Jackson

Tycoon's US cash gift furthers old school tie

by James Meikle and Bill Norris

Self-made millionaire Mr George Baker is giving his old school £10,000 a year for giving him a start in life.

The American company president also wants to leave Salisbury Secondary School, Edmonton, £750,000 (£215,000) when he dies.

The money may be used at first to increase the number of computers at the split-site school, to help some of the primary feeder schools, and to give extra assistance in books and living expenses for former pupils who go on to further or higher education.

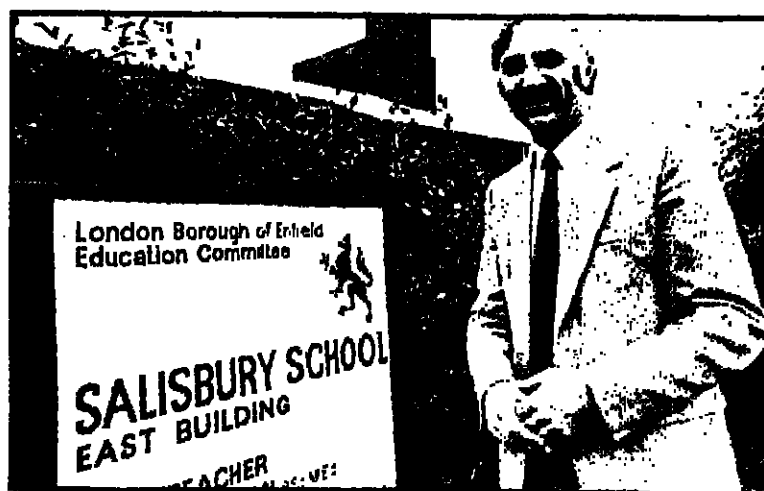
Mr Baker was a bright boy from a poor family in north London. So bright that he won a scholarship to Latymer School - yet so poor that his parents could not afford to buy his uniform, and he had to give up the scholarship.

It was William Houndsfield (later Salisbury) school that gave him his chance: A scholarship and a uniform. "That always stuck with me," said Mr Baker in Atlanta this week. He left Houndsfield at the age of 13 in 1939 after spending eight years there. "I thought that when I made a few bucks I would do something to pay them back."

Mr Baker has made a few bucks. More than a few. Today he counts his dollars in millions, of which he admits to having "several".

His success story began in 1952, when as a salesman for a British printing company he was transferred to Canada. There, he found himself running the factory. Six years later he moved to the United States, and in 1964 set up his own company, Datagraph Inc, with a capital of only \$5,700.

Datagraphic, which manufactures



Keith Rutherford, head of Salisbury School which will receive the money.

computer business forms, was the right idea at the right time. To the original factory in Rochester, New York, Mr Baker added plants in Atlanta, Georgia, Dallas, Texas, and Anaheim, California. And now he has become a multinational entrepreneur, with a new printing works in England at Rugby. The company's annual turnover has risen to \$25 million.

Now aged 60, Mr Baker makes several trips to England each year and usually brings his American wife, who has a fondness for shopping at Harrods. Last year, he returned to look at possible sites for a factory and visited Salisbury twice.

His own leisure interest is soccer. Still a keen Spurs supporter, he sponsors two teams in the United States, one of which won the American amateur cup in 1979. In fact for some years he combined his business career with coaching one of the leading

American professional soccer teams. "It was," he says, "a busy time." Salisbury head Mr Keith Rutherford said: "He felt most of his success was due to the fact he had a good basic education in the early years and wanted to put something back."

"He is very keen that people will be able to get the sort of education which he couldn't because there was a shortage of money."

Mr Baker's former home is next door to the lower school of Salisbury. Mr Rutherford, who took charge just before Mr Baker made his extraordinary offer, said: "It is a superb story. We have just got a £600,000 building programme from the education authority. The parents seem to think I have some kind of Midas touch."

A charitable trust has been established to take charge of Mr Baker's money.

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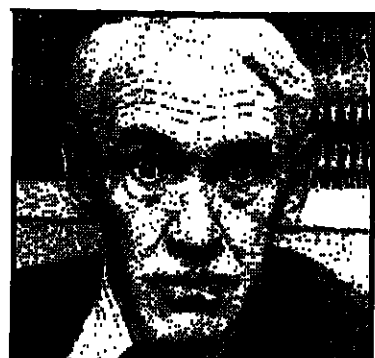
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Roger Knight argues that the behaviourist approach of the draft criteria knocks the heart out of a subject which should be sensitive to the inner, the individual, the imaginative, the symbolic

Centrality of Eng. lit.



F.R. Leavis: continuity



Lord Bullock: language focus

In the first and, still, incomparably the most literate of reports on the teaching of English in this country, the Newbolt Committee (1921) stated "an incontrovertible primary fact": that "for English children no form of knowledge can take precedence of a knowledge of English; no form of literature can take precedence of English literature; the two are so inextricably connected as to form the only basis possible for a national education".

The tone of energetic confidence was warranted for the Newbolt Committee by the conviction that they were articulating the obvious: they were strengthening and protecting an acknowledged tradition of values. "English" was the natural inheritance of a whole people; it was the duty of a national educational system to enable them to come into fuller possession of it.

Such a conviction took its place in a larger pattern of certainties. Though the committee worried about the way the existing system reinforced class divisions, their report projects a strong sense of national identity and, significantly, of its authors' confidence in their right to represent it in their own persons.

Sixty-five years on, such confidence has gone the way of the certainties in which it was rooted. For post-imperial, "multicultural" Britain, the idea of Englishness as an undisputed constituent of the national consciousness has waned along with faith in the value and power of literature to express it.

Newbolt's notion of the centrality of literature has nonetheless been the formative idea in the teaching of English at all levels in the present century. As it came to be articulated and disseminated in the work of F.R. Leavis in particular, it acquired an energizing and directive power that is still felt in all that is best in contemporary English teaching. For most pupils in secondary schools, literature is still central to "English", albeit often in diluted or instrumental guises - raised upon to document investigations of social issues. At its best, "English" accepts with Leavis that "English literature" gives us a continuity that is not yet dead - a full continuity of mind, spirit and sensibility (1967).

The anxiety and pessimism to be found in Leavis's later work was undoubtedly due in part to his awareness that this kind of language, this kind of belief, was waning in its strength and penetration. He was right. Just as the dominance of literary studies (as he had helped to define them) was coming under attack in the universities, so "English" in schools was subjected to re-definitions in which literature had a distinctly subordinate place.

The formative ideas of the Bullock report (1975), as in subsequent official publications such as *English from 5 to 16*, derive from linguistics. Linguistics has nothing to say of "mind, spirit and sensibility".

At its most overweening, it brutally repudiates them. According to a recent formulation, "literary language is not unique or superior to other examples of language in use... readers interpret it by adopting strategies which are related to the way in which they decode other bits of language in context". The nature of literature was of little interest to the Bullock Committee; the focus of its attention was "language" which, contrary to the persuasion of Newbolt, it extricated most cleanly from its entanglement with literature.

The coincidence of the rise of language studies with the weakening grasp on the nature and value of literature has had important consequences in "official" versions of "English"; and particularly so at a time when, the public examination system being in a phase of reform, the pressure is for a curriculum directed from the centre.

Both Newbolt and Leavis gave a central direction to our thinking about the place of "English" in our culture and our education. Neither was of course beyond criticism: Newbolt certainly devalued popular speech and Leavis tended to insist upon too tight a definition of "English literature". Nevertheless, both deepened our understanding of the mutually enriching relationship between a language and its literature. Their kind of centrality, however, was quite different from the centrality with which we are now faced.

"Mind, spirit and sensibility": these are not words we may reasonably expect to find in a document outlining a scheme of assessment; but, unless the thinking of those responsible for it is informed by what such words mean in the context of English teaching, the heart has gone from the subject.

The SEC's English Working Party's report (1975), as in subsequent official publications such as *English from 5 to 16*, derive from linguistics. Linguistics has nothing to say of "mind, spirit and sensibility".

best available thinking about both. Its function (as a development out of the previously published National Criteria) is to advance the standardization of assessment in the subject. The consequence, even if it is accepted in severely modified form, will be to standardize and thus impoverish its teaching. For the characteristic language of the report is very sharply at odds with the central traditions of the subject. Intellectually it is parochial. In its most distinctive traditions, "English" places its emphasis on the inner, the individual, the imaginative, the symbolic. "English" and examinations have for this reason always been the uneasy of bedfellows. The language of the working party places its emphasis upon the external, the observable, the measurable. In short, it is behaviourist. Accepting their obligation to identify "subsets of the subject", they present an enormous panoply of criteria (147 in all) by which pupils' "performance characteristics" may be assessed in reading, writing and oral communication.

"Performance" is by now so widespread a term in educational assessment that it requires a special effort of consciousness if we are to discern the misdirections it may give to our thinking. Such misdirections are particularly clear in the criteria for oral communication. The key-terms appear to bring within reach of objective measurement features of spoken English that we know instinctively to be marked by their resistance to scrutiny and adequate description.

"Performance" will be measured within "speech situations": what will be measured will be "oral and aural skills". Such phrases drain the life from the activities to which they refer ("One focus of talk should be literature" read during the course). They foster the delusion that speech is as calculated in the utterance (the document speaks of the "use" of "skills" in speech) as the system with which it is proposed to assess it.

"Skills", with its connotation of technical accomplishment, is an indispensable and highly significant word here. To accept that our experience of language may be minutely classified and evaluated as a collection of observable skills is to open the way to the proliferating (and unreal) discriminations that constitute the draft grade criteria.

The working party's own language (and through it, one might fancy, "English" itself) takes its revenge on the attempt to view language merely externally. The attempt to be concrete, particular and definite leads, paradoxically, to the abstract, generalized and vague. Average candidates, we are told, will be able to:

recognize a speaker's more obvious attitudes, aims and intentions and react to them.

Better candidates will: identify the aims and intentions of a speaker and respond to them.

Are these real, observable distinctions? Are we looking at words used with a full attention to their meaning in their contexts? Why are "attitudes" missing from the second formulation? What is the better candidate doing when he "responds" that the less accomplished candidate can't manage when he "reacts"?

The impact of the "skills and competencies" approach is to generate a range of formulations that persistently elude the understanding. This is exactly what one would expect when such an approach is brought to bear upon a subject inherently resistant to systematic description and classification.

Inevitably, literature is an embarrassment in the drive to categorize "performance characteristics". The working party backs off, slightly, from its otherwise relentless catalogues of "skills and competencies", to acknowledge that:

Many course activities will not be intended for assessment purposes and will have objectives such as delight in language for its own sake, the awakening of curiosity and the development of empathic understanding which fall outside the purview of the public examination system.

But what will this acknowledgement mean in practice? The paragraph continues:

Where a piece of course work is intended for examination purposes, its potential contribution to assessment can be evaluated by a consideration of the criteria which are appropriate.

The issue is fudged. The working party's quest for objectivity in assessment runs into the ground; the distinction proposed between work with objectives that "fall outside the purview of the public examination system" and those that fall within it is quite unreal. If the response to a poem, say, is largely remarkable for a "delight in language" and the display of "empathic understanding", these features of the response cannot be edited out of a piece of writing so as to facilitate assessment of what is left behind.

The assumption that we can split off what we feel about poems and stories from what we know about them enables criteria-makers to generate distinctions which deny the nature of our responses to literature and are for that reason - unusable. We are told, for instance, that Grade CD candidates will:

demonstrate an understanding of the implicit development of the text, such as interrelationship of ideas, while a Grade A/B candidate will: recognize and comment on the thematic development of the text.

Abstract, obscure and intellectually dubious, such criteria have been conceived in complete disregard of what actual teachers in actual classrooms with actual children can conceivably do with them.

This is where a centralism that ignores what is central to a subject leads. The report may be that the working party's report is only a beginning, that much revision and consultation lie ahead. However, the report embodies a way of thinking about the subject that asks to be taken as directive and exemplary. That way of thinking is inadequate to the nature of the subject: a drastic limitation when it is the central subject of the curriculum.

A cumulative document that is sensitive to the way we use language to produce mere catalogues of criteria. It would instead have presented examples of children's work with commentaries upon them. It would thus have invited teachers' critical engagement at the point where all systems have to be weighed: the children's work.

Had the working party adopted such a procedure, they would surely have found it difficult to be satisfied with criteria of such varying validity and intelligibility. Such a procedure might even have enabled them to turn round upon their terms of reference and admit that, by any criteria to which teachers of "English" should attach themselves, the acceptance of such terms could only betray the true values of the subject and travesty its best contemporary practices.

Roger Knight is Senior Lecturer in Education in the University of Leeds and Editor of the *Use of English*.

Susannah Kirkman speaks to two families about the advantages of bringing up bilingual children...

Mother and père



En famille... Mr and Mrs Adams, Joel (left), Christobel and Armelle

Parents should not be afraid of bringing their children up to be bilingual, according to members of the Institute of Linguists.

Children who experience two languages from an early age soon learn not to muddle them up, says Mr John Adams, who runs a language school and translation service in Huddersfield and is spokesman for the Institute of Linguists.

The three Adams children, whose mother is French, all use a mixture of French and English at an early stage, ranging from, "Je veux un jam tart", to "Quoi about me?" And they sometimes applied French grammar to English. "La petite girl a waké up," said Joel, aged three, re-telling the story of Goldilocks and the three bears. But the children, whose ages range from 6 to 15, now all speak English and French fluently.

Unlike many linguists, Mr Adams does not think that the influence of one language on another is harmful. "Apart from often being highly amusing, it shows that the child is experimenting, stretching his or her vocabulary and expressive ability," he said.

Mr Mike Bromley, a French teacher from Leeds, agrees that there is no lasting confusion between the two languages. His eldest son, Christopher, now 11, spoke only French at home until he started primary school,

learning English from neighbours, English relatives and friends. Yet his parents say that his English has not suffered.

His junior school teacher did not notice any difference between Christopher's English and that of his classmates; he even had the same broad Leeds accent, according to his French mother, Mrs Paulette Bromley, who teaches French at Leeds Polytechnic.

Christopher is now fluent in both languages. "He's now realizing how important it is to speak another language. He'll suddenly say: 'I'm speaking too much English. I must speak some French now,'" Mrs Bromley said.

The Adams and Bromley families, who are to outline their experiences to a meeting of the Institute of Linguists at Leeds Polytechnic tomorrow, are enthusiastic about the benefits of bilingualism from a young age.

"It stretches them. A child of two in a bilingual environment will know twice as many words as an ordinary child," said Mr Adams.

"Small children are like little sponges; they can easily switch from one language to another," insisted Mr Bromley.

But they agreed that it would be difficult to put their ideas into practice unless both parents were fluent in two languages and spoke the "foreign" language together. Often the foreign parent is anxious not to use his or her native language.

Children can also react against their "foreign" language when they start school. Nicholas Bromley, aged 8, now answers his parents in English when they address him in French. And the children sometimes feel self-conscious if their parents talk to them in French in front of their friends, Mrs Bromley said.

French teaching in secondary schools can be another setback, as the ability to communicate does not always carry much weight. Mr Adams admitted that the new emphasis on oral skills in the GCSE would improve the situation, but said that it was "still possible to pass a level French with no spoken command of the language."

The seminar on bilingualism will be held at the Brunswick Building, Leeds Polytechnic, following the annual meeting of the Institute of Linguists' Yorkshire regional society.

... and Richard Garner hears a plea for more language teaching

Turning a deaf ear to the world

A plea for a new approach to bilingual education to overcome Britain's "linguistic parochialism" was made this week by Professor Bhiku Parekh, deputy chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality.

Giving the annual IBM/North West-mer City Lecture in London on Tuesday, Professor Parekh warned that schools were making a "grave mistake" in ignoring community languages.

He said: "A powerful case for teaching them in our schools can be made at three levels - the educational interests of ethnic minority children, those of the indigenous white children, and the larger, cultural, political and economic interests of British society."

Community languages should be taught in the primary school and offered with other languages in the secondary school.

He argued that the British had never really appreciated the importance of foreign languages, adding: "It is relatively rare to find politicians, businessmen, academics, doctors, lawyers and others, able and willing to conduct discussions with their foreign counterparts in the latter's languages, not even in French, a language as rich and influential as English, taught in all our schools for decades and spoken by Britain's nearest neighbour."

Professor Parekh said Britain now had many thousands of children who were fluent in ethnic minority languages. "One would have thought we would use their presence as a catalyst to

Annan calls for funding reform of higher education

by Hilary Wilce

The Croham Committee of Inquiry reviewing the role of the University Grants Committee should also take on a fundamental inquiry into the funding and management of the higher education system, Lord Annan told the House of Lords last week.

Opening a debate on the Institution's management of higher education, Lord Annan, a former vice-chancellor of London University, rehearsed his by now well-known views that the universities are incapable of reforming themselves, and that the central bodies of the UGC and the National Advisory Body are not empowered to do so.

Expansion during the 1960s had been based on the wrong principles, he said. "We were right to expand the numbers of students and academic staff. We were wrong to think we could give all students a Rolls-Royce higher education."

He suggested a hierarchy of provision, created by designating "centres of excellence" with higher staff salaries and funding levels, or by using the North American model to make some institutions into liberal arts colleges with no postgraduate work.

Staff-student ratios could be increased, while scientists and technologists "whose best creative work is behind them" could drum up research funds.

Two-year degrees might be introduced, he said, with further specialist training where necessary. And students could be charged higher fees if they attended an institution away from their home area.

The Secretary of State has already said that he intends to take powers to alter the statutes of the universities so that academic staff can be made redundant. Can he not seize this moment and do what many of his predecessors have hinted that they wanted - fundamentally to alter the organization of higher education so as to make it a less crushing financial burden for the taxpayer?" he asked.

Lord Flowers, Rector of Imperial College, London, and until last summer chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, defended the UGC. He said it had worked well during the expansion of the 1950s and 1960s, but had an inappropriate staff and membership to administer financial cuts.

"The committee mostly consists of hard-working academics able to judge the worth of teaching and research as well as anyone, but few even having had to learn the skills of management. There are, I think, only three people from outside the sphere of education among the whole membership of the UGC."

Lord Flowers agreed that more selectivity was needed in the organization and funding of research, but said this should be by internal evolution rather than by selection through an outside agency.



(2 esp. prolonged/interr - used as a visual representation of sleep or moving exp. in cartoons limit. of meaning.)

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Small schools in jeopardy

Many small schools in Dyfed are uneconomic and may have to close, a report adopted by the county council suggests.

Of 331 primary schools in the county, 140 have fewer than 50 pupils. The report points out that only North Yorkshire, with 143, has more small schools.

The report was produced by a special committee set up to establish why spending on small schools had not fallen in line with the decline in pupil numbers. These had dropped by 11 per cent since 1975 while spending had fallen by less than 1 per cent.

Now Mr John Phillips, Dyfed's education director, is to prepare a report showing where area schools could replace a number of rural schools.

Minister's plea to Ulster teachers

Carmel McQuaid

Teachers in Northern Ireland have been urged to impress on pupils the difference between legal protests and law-breaking.

Dr Brian Mahoney, education minister, made the call while addressing the Irish National Teachers' Organization's Ulster conference in Newcastle, County Down. Earlier last week the threats during the Loyalist Day of Action had prevented many teachers getting to work.

He pleaded with teachers to extend their scope to constructive political action which would help the young of the province perceive the principles by which civilized democratic societies were governed.

"To fail to do so is to will them a

Micro board's new members

Sir Keith Joseph has appointed 11 members to the management board of the new Microelectronics Support Unit (MSU). The board is to be chaired by Mr Mike Nichol, chief education officer of the Wirral.

The unit is to provide a support service to L.E.A.s as a follow-up to the Microelectronics Education Programme and continue work on curriculum development and special education; an annual budget of £3 million.

The new members, who have been appointed for five years, are: Mr J G Harris, education technology adviser, Salford; Mrs R Wainwright, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley; Mr J J Steward, deputy principal, Burnley.

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SEC pledge on draft syllabuses for 16-plus

By Susannah Kirkman

The content of the draft GCSE syllabuses already circulating in schools is unlikely to be changed, the Secondary Examinations Council has assured teachers.

"By and large, these syllabuses will meet the (General) criteria. To date, SEC committees have commented on syllabus content in only a very small number of cases," according to the latest issue of SEC News.

Many teachers are worried that they will not be able to prepare for the new exam until the final syllabuses are published. At the same time the examining groups have been pressing the SEC to approve all syllabuses by the end of April.

A Council spokesman said that the most common reason for sending a syllabus back to an examining group for changes was when it did not allow enough opportunities for F and C candidates to show what they could

achieve. But he admitted that these changes could affect the contents of a syllabus in subjects like maths, science and foreign languages, which must offer different papers for candidates of different abilities.

Meanwhile, teachers still say they are not ready for the new exam. The head and all his teaching staff at Spalding Grammar School have written to parents saying that the GCSE "is being bulldozed into operation before it is ready, and the pupils involved will pay the biggest price for it."

The TUC's Education Committee, whose chairman is Mr Fred Jarvis, NUT general secretary, has also demanded the postponement of the introduction of the GCSE.

● The Commission for Racial Equality is to support a boycott of the new GCSE exams because the syllabus guidelines fail to reflect the principles

of multiracial Howard Sharron writes.

CRE officials are backing the Association for Curriculum Development - an alliance of teachers and parents which has 400 members, mostly in London - in their call for trade unions and I.E.A.s to boycott the new exams.

Mr Gerry German, principal education officer at the CRE, said there was great concern in Britain's black communities that suggestions on how the syllabuses could be made more suitable for a multiracial society had been ignored.

"The Association of Curriculum Development has done a great deal of good work concerning the improvement of the curriculum but, despite all the rhetoric about Swann, they have been ignored by the authorities. They have been driven to this type of campaign and they have our fullest sympathy."

Further pressure to delay

by Julia Hagedorn

Sir Keith Joseph was urged to delay the introduction of the GCSE examination when he addressed a conference of Oxfordshire headteachers last Friday.

Mr Howard Green, from Henry Wood Comprehensive, Witney, called on the Education Secretary to put back the exam until 1987.

Mr Green told the conference, organized by the local branch of the National Association of Head Teachers, that parents were appalled that there were no official courses for the schools. In addition, three of his teachers had returned from stage two training courses extremely alarmed by what was happening.

Sir Keith admitted that stage two training had not been as successful as he had hoped and that expressions of concern were reaching him from all over the country. But preparations for the exam were on schedule and a respectable proportion of teachers had attended courses.

Mr Green replied that it was only now with the training of teachers under way that the full implications of the new assessment procedures and practical sessions were hitting teachers. The timetable was wrong, he said, and the schedule too tight.

Triple attack over cuts in universities

by Hilary Wilce

Pressure on the Government to reverse the cuts in financial support given to students was stepped up on three fronts this week - by university leaders, students and politicians.

The heads of two Oxford colleges - Balliol and Wadham - have written to parents and guardians of the colleges' undergraduates drawing their attention to the financial hardship that students are suffering and urging them to take it up with their MPs.

The vice-chancellors of Durham, East Angles and Glasgow have recently taken the same step and more are expected to follow.

This week the national executive of the National Union of Students decided to intensify pressure on MPs known to oppose or ignore the question of increased student support.

MPs in marginal constituencies are to be targeted in a campaign of "political harassment", which will include intense local lobbying and a drive to register student voters in the areas concerned.

A number of MPs are known to have majorities which are smaller than the potential number of student voters. They include Mr Peter Bruniels, MP for Leicester East, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, MP for Bristol East, and Mr Piers Merchant, MP for Newcastle Central.

Meanwhile a Commons debate was due to take place this Wednesday evening on an Opposition motion deploring the cuts in the student grant and the proposal to remove certain housing and unemployment benefits from students.

The vice-chancellors have pointed out to parents that the real value of the student grant has fallen by £320 since 1979, and the Government's proposal to cut students' welfare and housing entitlements could cost students up to £800 a year.

A student living away from home, but not in London, will receive a maintenance grant of £1,830 this year. This will go up by about 2 per cent next year.

Last month, the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, Sir Patrick Neill, in the university's reply to the Government's Green Paper on the future of higher education, deplored the Government's decision not to publish a consultative paper on student support as "nothing short of scandalous".

DIARY

One-upmanship

The National Union of Teachers has been attacked by its union rivals for its rearguard action against the pay settlement. But it can at least get its sums right as it out-maneuvres opponents on CLEA's terms of service body.

At last week's meeting, the NUT used the very figures that led to the control of the teachers' side on CLEA. We have 218,138 members, said deputy general secretary Mr. McAvoy. You, minus the Teachers' Association of Teachers (represented on Burnham but not on CLEA) is a combined membership of 204,138. So we get nine seats and you get 10. This remorseless logic did not stop down well with the other unions. I kicked and screamed and stamped my little heels. They also abused and walked out. The result: a minor propaganda coup for the NUT, who secured a 9-0 vote against the AEA deal.

Holy writ

It hardly bears thinking about, but John Wodell has been chairman of Burnham Committee for 20 years. It does he keep going? Well, it appears that he finds some solace in the Book.

At the end of the last Burnham meeting, just before the introduction of the new system, Sir John said he was optimistic for the future and that the committee had the following passage from the Bible: "And though the lot give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not the teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers." (Isaiah xxx. 20)

It was instantly recognised by the Rev Peter Dawson, general secretary of the PAT (this was Burnham, remember, so he was there), not as instantly recognised by the others.

Sir John did not read on. If he had he would have got to a bit about casting away graven images (Hosea 10. 8) and being rewarded with "bread of the increase of the earth, fat and plenteous..." But Sir John too old a hand to be that optimistic.

Bonus rates

Four out of five senior officials at the DES are feeling distinctly cheered this month. The reason is the new performance bonus system of performance bonuses, meant to reward those who have put up a particularly good job over the past year (to paraphrase Robert Armstrong). The minimum payment is £800 but some have got as much as £800 extra in their March pay packets. According to the rules of the game, only one in five strikes lucky.

What are the criteria? How are they being assessed? are the corridors of Elland House. Teachers may feel confident that some of their problems are now appreciated as never before.

Clear view

Most people do not like living in glass houses. But Mr Stephen Mandel, the new head of Millfield Jewish primary school, is actually asking for one. He has put in a request to his governing body to knock down one of the walls of his study and put in a glass panel and glass door, so that parents, visitors and pupils can "see what is going on". Reports, please.

Acronyms

Mike Durham on the 200 councillors who face possible bankruptcy

New court threat for surcharge rebels

At least 14 education committee members in Sheffield and six members of the Inner London Education Authority are among councillors who could face bankruptcy and loss of office in the second round of local authority surcharge cases.

District auditors in up to eight councils are actively considering taking about 200 local councillors to court over delays in setting a rate last year. The total sum involved could be £1 million.

Last week more than 20 members of the education committee in Liverpool and 32 Lambeth councillors were found liable in the High Court for surcharge and disqualification from office. Each now faces a bill of up to £8,000, including costs and debarment from council office for five years.

The Liverpool and Lambeth councillors have said they intend to appeal to the House of Lords and launched funds to cover their legal costs, expected to amount to hundreds of thousands of pounds.

In Sheffield, 38 Labour councillors could face court action. Fourteen are on the education committee out of a total committee membership of 31. They include the chairman, Ms Joan Barton, and deputies Mr Mike Bower and Mr Steve Jones.

Mr John Banham, chairman of the Audit Commission, has warned that Sheffield is among councils which might face action over failing to set a rate until last May or June. The other councils are all in London, but six borough members of ILA could be affected.

All are members of Labour groups of the councils targeted for possible action, but this week it was not clear whether all six face surcharge because some may have voted in favour of setting a legal rate.

They include Mr Bob Crossman, (Jelington), Mr Neil Fletcher (Camden) and Ms Helen Crossfield, who is one of the surcharged Lambeth councillors. Other Labour ILA members at risk could be Ms Dot Bigwood

(Greenwich), Mr John Fowler (Southwark) and Ms Ruth Gee (Hackney). The situation is complicated by the forthcoming local elections, when a third of the seats will be contested in metropolitan districts, and by the ILA direct election in May.

Mr Crossman and Ms Gee are not standing in the ILA elections. But Ms Bigwood, Ms Crossfield and Mr Fletcher have all been selected as Labour candidates and their election must now be in doubt.

If they remain selected when nominations close on April 8 they may still fight the elections. But they could face disqualification after the elections on May 8 if a High Court case against them is successful.

The surcharged Liverpool councillors, some of whom might face bankruptcy as well as disqualification, include Mr Dominic Brady, the education chairman, his deputy, Ms Felicity Dowling, and the council's leader Mr John Hamilton, a former teacher. As well as Ms Crossfield, the sur-



Mr Bob Crossman

charged Lambeth councillors include Mr Stephen Bubb, a salaries official with the National Union of Teachers. If the appeal by Liverpool and Lambeth councillors goes ahead, they

will retain their seats until after the hearing and could fight in the May elections.

But if the House of Lords rejects the appeal, both councils could temporarily become controlled by Conservative and Alliance members, while by-elections are held to replace the disqualified councillors.

● The vice-chair of Liverpool education committee, Ms Felicity Dowling, is also among 12 Liverpool Labour party members accused of support for Militant and facing possible expulsion from the party.

Ms Dowling, aged 36, is Liverpool District Labour Party secretary. She taught in Liverpool schools for 10 years and is a former president of Liverpool division of the NUT.

Following an internal Labour Party enquiry, she is charged with alleged abuses of rules and standing orders and with involvement in Militant - a proscribed organization for the Labour Party. A hearing is to take place on March 26.

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White Paper gives boost to powers on attendance

By Biddy Passmore

Courts are to be given specific power to make juveniles under a supervision order to attend school.

The Government's White Paper on criminal justice, published last week, makes this proposal as part of a general strengthening of courts' powers in relation to supervision orders.

At present, courts can make the young person attend school but only for a limited period and with the offender's consent. The new power would not be subject to these restrictions.

The White paper also proposes that courts should have the power to punish with a custodial sentence a juvenile who breaches a supervision order. The only sanctions currently are fines and attendance centre orders.

"Fears have been expressed," it says, "that because custodial sanctions are not available in the event of breach, some courts may be reluctant to impose supervision orders as an alternative to custody for more serious offenders."

"Criminal Justice, Plans for Legislation," HMSO price £2.80 net. "Custodial Sentences for Young Offenders: a discussion paper", available from the Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT.

English win in final

English schools have swept the board in a Scottish-based computer competition for young economists. Winners of the annual competition for sixth-year pupils - organized by Heriot-Watt University - were from King Edward VII School, Lytham. They won £2,500 to be spent by the school on computing equipment, and each team member won an HP12C calculator, worth £120.

The teams used a simulated model of the British economy, which pupils had to run over ten years, matching wits with the Chancellor of the Exchequer in controlling inflation, combating unemployment, and setting the budget.

Second placed were Clifton College, Bristol, and third were a team from Poole grammar school, Dorset. The best the Scots could manage was fourth - through a team from George Heriot's School, Edinburgh.

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The School Curriculum Development Council has just announced the latest round of awards from its Teachers' Fund, which encourages curriculum development projects. Susannah Kirkman visited two schools, which received awards last year, to see how they had spent the money.

Young authors book up for a time-trip

Children at Earls Barton Junior School, near Northampton, are developing their language skills by writing and publishing their own book. The project is a natural extension of the school's well-established language policy. "We believe children should write for a purpose. What better purpose is there than publishing a book?" Mr David Blake, who is the teacher responsible for language work at Earls Barton, explained.

Pupils have always been encouraged to write for different audiences and to redraft their work. Reading for pleasure is important, too. One school assembly a week is devoted to "Book-case", where staff introduce the books they will be reading from the following morning. Each child then has to choose which story they would most like to listen to.

The SCDC grant of £750 has acted as a catalyst for focusing on writing according to Mrs Valerie Bailey, the school's headteacher. "It has spurred us on to make writing more alive for the children," she said.

For some time, the school had been interested in a writer-in-residence scheme partly funded by East Midlands Arts; the SCDC funding helped to make the idea possible.

When she first arrived at the school, children's writer Gwen Grant helped children in different year groups to work out their ideas for their contribution to the book. The first year chose to write a fantasy story called *The Jelly lover* which features a brother and sister, pirates and a ghost addicted to jelly babies.

Project awards

More than 100 awards, worth nearly £60,000, have been made to teachers in the latest round of the School Curriculum Development Committee's Teachers' Fund, which encourages curriculum development.

Most of the awards have gone to help schools finance projects on special education in mainstream schools, religious and moral education and the curriculum for three to seven-year-olds, which includes helping parents to prepare their children for starting school.

Teachers will have another chance if they apply for the next round by July 1. They should write to: Andrew Harvey, School Curriculum Development Committee, Newcombe House, 45 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3JB.

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First year pupils dramatize *The Jelly lover*, above, while David Blake leads an editing meeting, right.

words and phrases, sometimes with the help of a thesaurus. At an editing meeting a small group of fourth years was discussing the description of the T-shirt worn by "Puncher" Murderson, the village bully in the story. Did "patchy white T-shirt" mean a dirty garment, or one covered in patches? Earlier, someone had substituted "Jackie stood motionless" for "Jackie stood as still as she could".

"Sarcastically" and "guiped" were two of the most over-used words, according to one fourth-year girl, and finding alternatives for "said" was another problem.

They are now more aware of punctuation. "Is a comma strong enough here?" someone asked. "The children are now willing to change their work. At first, they always wanted to vote for their own ideas, but now they're happy to offer five or six suggestions and for them to be rejected," said Mrs Liz Rees, who has been released from her normal teaching time-table to co-ordinate the project.

The project has also enriched and linked other areas of the curriculum. First-year pupils are to present a musical version of *The Jelly lover* to mark the publication of the school's book in June. All the pupils have been involved in preparing illustrations for the book, and some have learnt calligraphy, illuminated lettering and design skills as they prepared chapter headings, and title pages.

Kim Palmer, a local illustrator, has advised the children on illustrating

their work and on page design. The pupils looked at many different examples of book covers before designing their own. They have learnt the importance of matching the illustrations to the text.

Some groups have had to use mathematical calculations to fit the text and illustrations into grids on the proof pages. Marking out the spacing for chapter headings and titles has proved quite complicated.

Research and outside visits have played an important part in the second and fourth-year books. To compile their animal book second-year children have visited the local country park and the home of Mrs Pat Willford, a friend of the school who keeps more than 25 pets.

For their time-travel story, fourth-year children have researched Saxon history in Earls Barton. The vicar of the village has given them a talk on the history of the Saxon church and has taken small groups to look at the bell tower and the crypt, both of which feature in the story.

The fourth years have visited the manor house in Earls Barton and Northampton museum, and have learnt about Anglo-Saxon music and instruments from musicologists. At Radio Northampton, which also appears in the story, pupils watched a news bulletin go on and have been invited back to edit the news.

The school hopes to make £2,000 profit after the completed book, *All Four One*, is published in June. And there will be other spin-offs. The fourth years are to make a recording of



their story as a talking book for the blind, and Valerie Bailey and David Blake are to run an in-service training course on the project at Northampton Teachers' Centre.

Northamptonshire I.e.a. has been extremely supportive to the project. They have lent the school a word processor and have provided extra clerical help, as well as supply cover for some of the teachers co-ordinating the work.

The school's peripatetic remedial teacher has been freed from her normal timetable for some lessons, to allow her to work with less able pupils on their own illustrated stories.

And local firms and businesses have also helped by donating money to the project, and parents have come in to type the manuscript.

But Valerie Bailey is convinced the project would never have got off the ground without the SCDC grant. "Applying for money forces you to get your ideas down and formulate something," she said. "We have had to be tight in our organization and forward planning; the project has imposed discipline on us."

● Copies of *All Four One*, price £5.95, can be obtained from Mrs Valerie Bailey, Earls Barton Junior School, Broad Street, Earls Barton, Northampton NN16 0ND. The publication date is June 12. Any copies ordered before then will cost £5.

READING: HELP FOR MUSICIANS

It is essential to establish that the use of microtechnology equipment is enriching the educational environment for music education, and that teachers and advisers are selecting equipment because they are excited by the educational facilities offered by these machines, and not simply excited by the technology itself.

To help teachers in this difficult task requires an educationally based evaluation and information service, independent of the equipment manufacturers, and this was the first main reason for the establishment, with MEP-funding support, of the Microtechnology Unit within the Music Education Centre at Reading University in September 1984.

Information is provided to teachers and advisers through personal visits to the Unit and through the Unit's publications and information sheets. In particular an *Information Update* magazine is produced and circulated to all music advisers, teacher training establishments and teachers' centres and is encouraged to copy these and circulate them to their schools.

The Unit has gained a lot of experience in supporting this area of the curriculum, which will undoubtedly continue to develop in an exciting way, and it is hoped that the Unit can continue to help effectively in this development process.

Further details from Colin Wells, Manager, Music Education Centre Microtechnology Unit, University of Reading School of Education, London Road, Reading, RG1 5AQ. Telephone (0734) 875855.

An Emmaus experience

John Griswold tells of his conversion

"You ought to have an electronic studio," said the HMI. "Yes," we said, "but where are we to put it and where is the money coming from?"

The occasion was a full inspection and a new "music block" (an extension tacked on to the rear of the College Hall) was in the process of being built. Secretly, I have to admit, the idea of making "pink-plonk" noises on tape recorders, reversing them, playing them at different speeds and so on had not really appeal to an old-fashioned traditionalist like myself. The idea was quietly dropped.

We did, however, have three electronic pianos so that students could practise keyboard harmony and allied skills with the aid of headphones. These instruments proved to be extremely unreliable. However I became very intrigued by the pseudo sounds students managed to get out of them and we even used one as a pseudo "harpsichord" with the chamber orchestra on more than one occasion.

About a year later I heard a group of pupils from Ludlow School playing synthesizers at an audition for the National Festival of Music for Youth and again I was intrigued by the variety of sounds and effects coming from them, and I began to think that the idea of having a synthesizer in the College was not such a bad one after all. Then, in 1983, the "lea 'round" some money for the College, which, as usual, is one. In this course students are introduced to the basic theory of sound synthesis and are able to experiment with the equipment. In order that they will be able to have a reasonable amount of time on each piece of equipment I have tried,

electronic studio, though my ideas of what that meant were still somewhat hazy.

I was given two weeks in which to decide what was required, visit shops and other schools if necessary. I made the mistake early on of asking members of the physics and electronics departments for the meanings of strange initials like VCO, VCF, and so on and quickly found out they had as much idea as I had. However, by reading leaflets and specification sheets their meanings were eventually deciphered, though understanding what they did was another matter!

I eventually made my choice: three keyboards, one polyphonic and other two monophonic, a bassline and a drum unit. I then went round the College resources centre and found equipment that no-one used: a Ferrograph tape recorder, a small mixer, a cassette recorder with variable speed and a couple of microphones. The orchestra on more than one occasion.

About a year later I heard a group of pupils from Ludlow School playing synthesizers at an audition for the National Festival of Music for Youth and again I was intrigued by the variety of sounds and effects coming from them, and I began to think that the idea of having a synthesizer in the College was not such a bad one after all. Then, in 1983, the "lea 'round" some money for the College, which, as usual, is one. In this course students are introduced to the basic theory of sound synthesis and are able to experiment with the equipment. In order that they will be able to have a reasonable amount of time on each piece of equipment I have tried,

least the beginnings of some sort of

What's a MIDI?

Ed Jones explains a new jargon

MIDI stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface and has become a standard among manufacturers around the world for connecting electronic musical instruments to each other and to micro-computers.

A simple, 5-pin DIN socket is now in evidence on the back of most keyboards and drum machines marked "MIDI". This new socket is a serial, digital computer interface and allows up to 16 instruments to be chained together.

Most synthesizers nowadays will have a MIDI In, Out and Thru socket allowing connection between other keyboards and computers. The settings of MIDI digital delay (echo) and digital reverb (hall effect) units can also now be controlled down a MIDI line by another MIDI instrument. So, if you have a computer as a central MIDI control unit or "sequencer" (and I describe one of the most popular below) you can use it with a hardware MIDI interface and the appropriate software as a multitrack, digital recorder with accurate computer timing control.

It is important at this stage to realise that a MIDI sequencer won't actually record the audio sounds that you hear but simply the MIDI control codes of instruments that produce the sounds and effects, so here is a short list of exactly what can be controlled:

● **Keyboards & synthesizers:** Notes (pitch), timing values, sound change parameters & patches (sound memories). If you plug two MIDI keyboards together (MIDI Out on the 'Master' to MIDI In on the 'slave' unit) whatever notes you play on the master will also play on the slave assuming that they are both set to the same MIDI channel (remember MIDI is 16 channels 'deep'). The sound from each keyboard will vary depending on which patch (sound memory) is selected on each unit.

Only in the last few years have synthesizers had the facility to memorise different sounds in 'patch memories'; however now, with MIDI, you can not only change a slave keyboard's memories from the master keyboard but you can also 'dump' these memories to disk through a micro-computer either individually or in 'banks'.

So, in separate operations, a micro computer can now set up the patches on your synthesizer and then control your synthesizers to play music on up to 16 different channels through a MIDI interface. (To help understand terms such as 'patch' you will find below a short glossary.)

Drum machines: The MIDI standard specification sends a MIDI clock pulse down each MIDI line so that two drum machines may be connected together and play in time together without any timing synchronisation problems. For example Roland's TR-707 Rhythm Composer (drums and cymbals) may be connected to their TR-727 Percussion Composer (Latin percussion voices) via MIDI.

Each voice in a drum machine may also be assigned to an individual note on a MIDI keyboard thus allowing a keyboard player to play the drum sounds via MIDI. Why? Nowadays,

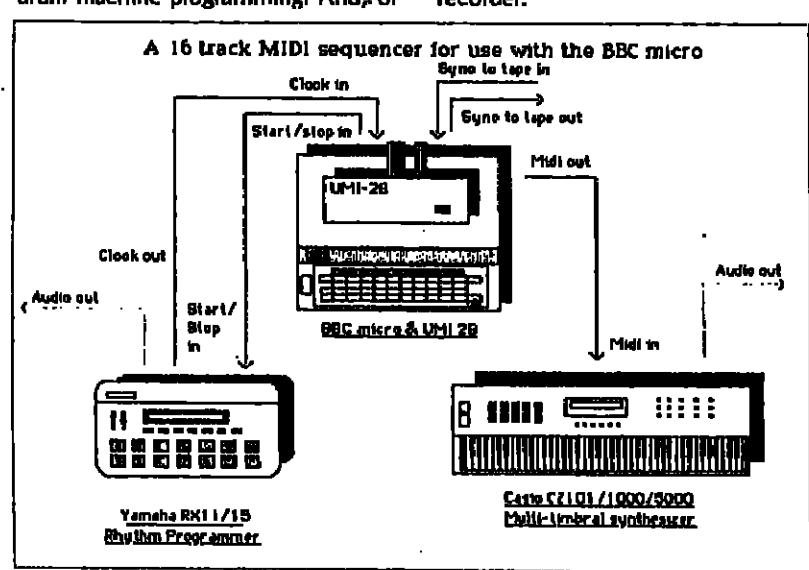
without much success, to restrict the number of students to six in each group. There are two groups each half term so nearly fifty students each year have the opportunity to learn something about synthesizers. A number of these have been keen enough to go down to the 'studio' during lunch hours to work on their own and some have begun to try to put their own music on tape, using the recently acquired Foster X-15.

I have found the world of electronic synthesis extremely fascinating. I have been amazed by the extraordinary range of sounds it is possible to produce and how often a particular sound will stimulate musical ideas. It has introduced me to music I would probably not otherwise have explored and has also, incidentally, allowed me to have some of my own music performed at the Schools Prom.

But be warned! Synthesizers ought to have a Government Health Warning—they are extremely addictive.

John Griswold is head of music at King Edward VI School, Slough, W. Mid. He has written for the *Times Educational Supplement* and *Musician*.

many synths and electronic pianos are touch-sensitive and even have weighted piano-type keys, so years of slaving away at piano lessons can now be put to good use giving expression to your drum machine programming! And, of



course, anything that can be recorded on a MIDI keyboard can be accurately played back by a computer or sequencer so the keyboard will play back on one MIDI channel whilst your drums play away perfectly in time on another MIDI channel.

Digital effects units: Echo and reverb units are now so versatile that they can reproduce many different types of slap-back, repeat, infinite, flanged and chorused echoes on many room and hall-size settings. Since these MIDI effects units are digital, they too have patch settings (memories) and these can be accessed and changed via MIDI.

For instance, half way through your musical masterpiece recorded onto your computer or sequencer you may wish the rich, fretless bass guitar sound to change to a snappy, light funky bass sound with a slap-back echo. All this could be achieved almost instantly by one MIDI channel changing patches on your bass synthesizer, digital delay and digital reverb all at the same time.

Sampling units: The latest breed of electronic musical instruments enables you to 'sample' (in other words digitally record) a short sound into your computer from a microphone or line input, plug a MIDI keyboard in and hey presto, off you go... you can change the pitch of a cork popping or glass ringing and even play it in polyphonic mode (with chords). Alternatively, you can 'sample' into one of these new breed of sampling units and then access the sound via MIDI from your computer.

You can see the wave form of the sound that you sampled, cut out certain harmonics, truncate the length or loop it at a convenient point (the computer can even tell you where that is). Physics was never this much fun before!

To control these devices is where a sequencer comes in. For example, the UMI-28 can not only sequence MIDI keyboards with patch (sound memory) changes but it can also be used to control MIDI effects units (such as the Yamaha D-1500 digital delay, Yamaha Rev-7 digital reverb, Roland SDE-2500 DDL & SRV-2000 MIDI digital reverb) and MIDI drum machines with full velocity control step-by-step or in real time.

Only a few years ago this type of computer sound mixing could only be dreamed about, but now it is a reality and musicians are finding new ideas for creativity. UMI-28 consists of a custom hardware MIDI interface unit and a sequencing program — on sideways ROM inside the BBC micro.

It can control 16 completely independent polyphonic tracks at any one time, just like a tape recorder (except that it records the MIDI control codes not the actual audio sounds). One Yamaha DX-7, say, can play 16 notes over its keyboard at the same time but not 16 different sounds. The new breed of multi-limbed synthesizers can play several different sounds at the same time (eg, the Casio CZ-101 & CZ-1000 will play up to 4 different monophonic voices or two duophonic voices or 1 plus 3 voices, etc.). These different

sounds are accessed via UMI by programming them to play on different tracks with different MIDI channels. Each of the 16 different UMI tracks can be assigned to play on any or all of the 16 different MIDI channels.

For example, all the 16 UMI tracks can be assigned to play on one Yamaha DX-7 at home and then re-assigned to different MIDI channels to play other MIDI keyboards in the studio. This assumes that each part (ie, bass line, chords, harmony parts and top line of your composition) is written into UMI on a separate track; you have 16 tracks to play with just like a multi-track tape recorder.

The future: Since MIDI is a fairly simple set of control codes it won't be long before we see MIDI lighting and graphics interfaces that will turn your seemingly harmless musical masterpiece into a truly integrated music system controller. Just imagine assigning any colour and graphic to any note and then making it change to reflect how high the pitch is and how long the notes are sustained for! What might seem at first to be a corny concept is going to happen very soon and will only be limited by the computing power inside your micro-computer and your imagination.

Musical notation: There are already several musical notation packages for the IBM and Macintosh on the market with full MIDI interface capabilities. Draw a stave on the screen, position the computer's cursor where you require the notes to appear, play your MIDI keyboard and the notes will appear on the screen; this method requires quite considerable computer graphics memory and much cursor moving, so input systems like the Macintosh's mouse are likely to be the most popular. Similarly, to print out professional-style notation needs quite a versatile printer and it is unlikely that the cheaper models will suffice.

However, MIDI has made all this happen; without it we would still be groping around in the dark trying to make one manufacturer's non-standard instrument interface to another. Digital instrument interface to another. Digital technology is tumbling in price every year and providing facilities for musicians now which we might only have dreamed about a couple of years ago.

For further help you can contact Ed Jones at The London Rock Shop, 26 Chalk Farm Road, London NW1 8AG. Phone 01-267 7851.

Glossary
MIDI: Musical Instrument Digital Interface.
Polyphonic synthesizer: One that plays more than one note at a time.
Monophonic synthesizer: One that plays only one note at a time.
Multi-limbed synthesizer: One that has the facility to play more than one sound (or 'patch') at a time, in layered (top of each other, eg piano & strings), split (bass to the left, brass to the right of a split point) or computer-assisted multi-MIDI channel sequencer mode.

Patch: a sound set up on a synth (eg, strings, brass, funk bass). A patch may be retained in a memory location if a synthesizer has memories.
Pre-set sounds: a permanent sound 'baked' into a synthesizer's ROM memory by the manufacturer. Normally a pre-set sound cannot be edited.
Programmable synthesizer: One that allows you to set up several personal patches and retain them in memory for future recall.

Sequencing: The process of joining note patterns together to create a song chain.
Patterns: The individual 'bars' or groups of bars that can be joined together to make a song.

Ethnic survey boycott urged

Polytechnic lecturers in inner London have been advised not to complete forms asking for information on their ethnic origins.

The Association of Polytechnic Teachers says the LEA monitoring exercise, which asks for a subjective assessment of whether employees are "black" or "white", and lists four broad categories of "black" and two of "white", is "an obviously racial and racist survey", and has asked the Commission for Racial Equality to declare that it is contrary to the 1976 Race Relations Act.

In guidance notes sent out with the form, the LEA says that the ethnic classification used has been adopted after consultations with unions and other interested parties.

L.e.a.s reach £3 million agreement on photocopying

A new copyright agreement lasting three years and worth more than £3 million has been hammered out between local authorities and the Copyright Licensing Agency.

The agreement covers the photocopying of books and articles for use in school classes, and follows an experimental scheme in which L.e.a.s were asked to assess the number of copies made in schools in a year.

A White Paper on copyright, which will include references to educational copying, is expected to be issued by the Department of Trade and Industry in the spring.

The new agreement, which covers L.e.a.s in England and Wales, means they will pay £900,000 in 1986-87 to the Copyright Licensing Agency, rising to £1.25 million in 1988-89. A total of 88 million copies are estimated to be made annually in schools and colleges.

The details of the White Paper are still understood to be the subject of a wrangle at Cabinet level over the amount of money which should be set aside for such agreements, and the question of legal copyright of small sections of whole books.

Such agreements do not apply to newspapers, like *The TES*, in any way.



The new copyright deal will last three years.

IN BRIEF

147 jobs to be cut

Northamptonshire County Council is to cut its teaching force of 5,000 by 147 to save £1.6 million a year.

The cut will worsen pupil-teacher ratios from 23.7:1 to 23.8:1 in primary schools and from 16.4:1 to 16.7:1 in secondary schools this September.

Savings will be achieved by not filling vacancies or through an early retirement scheme which may not be open to teachers in key positions or subjects such as maths and science.

£26,198 award

A woman teacher has been awarded £26,198 damages by the High Court after suffering an elbow injury while affected her love life.

Mrs Myra Ridgeway-Brown, 53, of Wiltshire Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, fell off a chair while putting children's paintings on a classroom wall at Wildridings Infant School, Netherpton, Bracknell. She retired in 1983 on medical grounds.

Mrs Ridgeway-Brown told the court that the pain she experienced in her right elbow and shoulder had reduced her sexual enjoyment considerably.

Berkshire County Council, which denied liability, was ordered to pay damages and legal costs. Damages were reduced by 30 per cent because of Mrs Ridgeway-Brown's "contributory negligence".

Help with fees

More than 200 families received an average of £1,645 each from charity last year to help with independent school fees. While the number of families helped represents a rise of 16 per cent over 1984 the amount per family rose by nearly 30 per cent.

Grant applications are screened by the educational grants advice bureau of ISIS, the Independent Schools Information Service. In the past five years the bureau has obtained more than £1 million of assistance for pupils at independent schools.

Lack of buildings

Secondary headteachers in Northern Ireland have condemned cuts in school buildings.

The Ulster Heads' Association says a recent announcement that no projects would be started in the next financial year was the "last straw". There is a demoralizing lack of suitable buildings, particularly for science and technology classes, say the heads.

They have also joined calls for a delay in the introduction of the GCSE until 1987.

Electronic mail

The Associated Examining Board is to use *The Times* Network for Schools to store exam information. Details about entry dates, the latest syllabuses and any developments will now be available in seconds via this electronic mailing system.

Police powers

A guide has been published to help youth workers understand the police powers and procedures embodied in the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1974 - *A Brief Guide for Youth Workers* is published by the National Youth Bureau, 17-23 Albion Street, Leicester, at 50p.

Media course

A new degree course in media production is to be offered by Newcastle Polytechnic from next autumn. The course will focus on visual communication - photography, film and video production research and graphic design - using new computer hardware, bought specifically for the course.

NEWS



Mixed classes stifle girls' curiosity

by Hilary Wilce

Lewis Carroll's heroine Alice, who cried, "curiouser and curiouser", is not the sort of girl who could be found in today's mixed schools. For the presence of boys acts as a distinct dampener on girls' youthful curiosity, researchers have found.

Girls in mixed schools are less likely to ask questions, seek new experiences, react positively to new stimuli, and ferret out answers to questions, than girls who attend all-girls schools, according to a study from Bath University.

Dr Jim Harvey, of the school of education, asked 1,400 first year secondary school students to rate their level of curiosity, using a 41-item American test.

The pupils came from three categories of school - mixed comprehensives with single-sex science classes; mixed comprehensives with mixed-sex science classes; and all-girls schools.

The findings showed no significant difference between the different kinds of mixed schools, but a highly significant difference between sexes, with girls showing a much lower curiosity than boys. However, the girls in all-girls schools showed a significantly higher level of curiosity than the girls in mixed schools.

The work found no relationship between intelligence, as measured by verbal reasoning quotient scores, and curiosity, thereby ruling out the "grammar school factor" which is

often used to explain higher performance in single-sex schools. Dr Harvey, writing in the Autumn 1985 issue of the *Durham and Newcastle Research Review*, says: "It is tempting to suggest that continued contact with the boys has a suppressing effect upon the curiosity of the girls, but any conclusion of this nature would need to be based upon a far larger sample."

Dr Harvey told *The TES* that the results were curious since the all-girls schools, "were what I would call a bit staid, and not providing the kind of atmosphere that stimulates questioning". But boys appeared to make girls feel inferior, he said.

Yet in other work he had done on pupil studies, girls attending mixed schools had shown a more positive attitude to school than girls going to all-girls schools, he added. However, the most positive attitudes were shown by boys going to all-boys schools.

Ms Kate Myers, director of the School Curriculum Development Committee's equal opportunities project, said: "It would seem logical that girls are likely to be intimidated by boys. All the work on classroom interaction shows that boys play up, and that girls are likely to be laughed at. If the girls have a diet of that for years, then they are not likely to want to show themselves up by asking questions which might make them look stupid. You have to have confidence to risk that."

Governors' guide to running schools

by Biddy Passmore

"Mrs Conale Winter" was one of the less effective teachers at her school. She could cope only with the more docile classes, was very reluctant to take examination classes and had neither the skill nor the class-control to practice modern methods in her maths teaching.

One day, Mrs Winter had a rough journey to school, changing a flat tyre on an icy road, and a difficult class made it a miserable morning for her. She went home without telling the office, drank a brandy, took a sedative and lay down for a rest.

The next thing she knew, it was 2.30 and the second lesson of the afternoon was well under way. She rushed in to teach the last lesson. At the end of the afternoon, the head summoned her, said she had committed an act of misconduct, and told her he was arranging a disciplinary hearing.

At the hearing a governors' panel demanded the case. A furious head demanded to see the CEO who, having studied the papers, said that, whatever

the case for or against Mrs Winter, the head's own incompetence as a manager was greater on four counts. What were they?

Mrs Winter is a totally fictitious character but this sort of hypothetical question school governors should be able to answer if they follow a new training package produced jointly by the Society of Education Officers and the National Association of Head Teachers.

It contains six units covering the financial structure within which schools operate, the curriculum, disciplinary procedures, "the governing body at work", an agenda exercise and staff selection.

The package, called "Page One", was put together by a working group containing both heads and education officers, and can be obtained from the group's chairman, Mr Tom Hinds, of the Education Department, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP (telephone 0223 317925). It costs £5 but is available at £2.50 for NABT members.

Union anger at Handsworth findings

Probe call over riot report 'slur'

by James Melkile

A teachers' leader says the controversial report on last autumn's Handsworth riots is "a slur on the professional integrity of teachers".

Mrs Christine Keates, secretary of the Birmingham branch of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, is horrified by some of the allegations in criticisms made in the report on the education of black and Asian children.

The report, *The Different Reality*, produced by West Midlands County Council, attacks the policies of neighbouring Birmingham L.e.a.

It says that teachers and heads often failed to check harassment of black and Asian children and had lower expectations of black children. Recruitment of black teachers and their promotion was also unsatisfactory, according to the report.

Mrs Keates said the union would be raising the criticisms with Birmingham education officers.

"We will be asking the authority what response they are putting in to what we consider to be quite wild allegations. Because of the serious nature of them, they should be fully investigated."

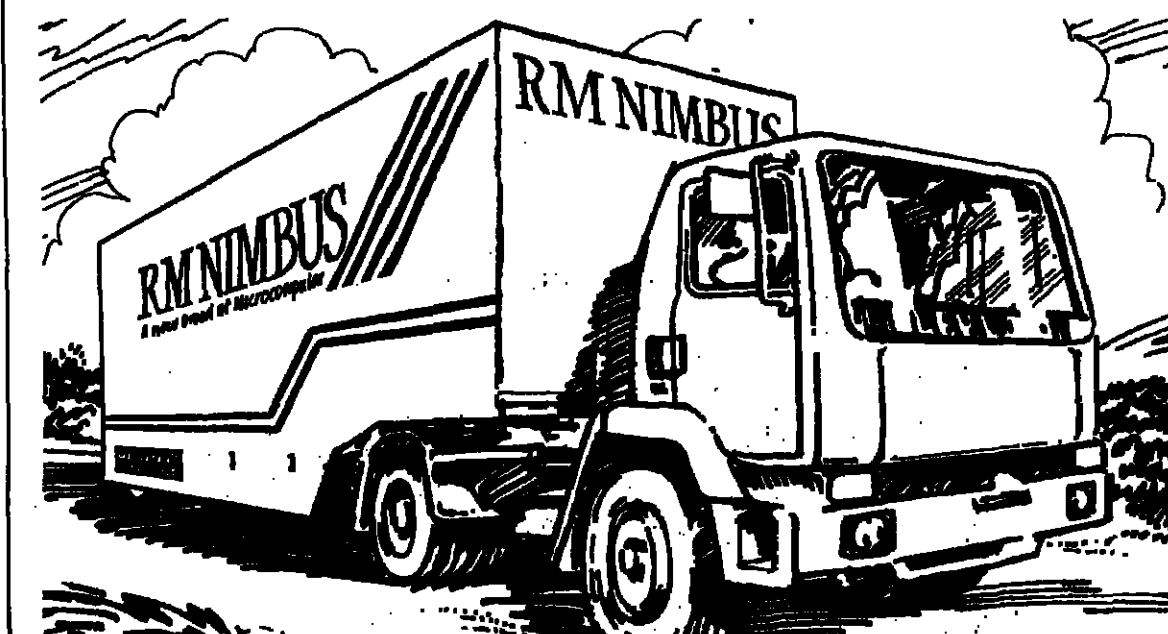
Mrs Keates said NAS/UTW members had suspended industrial action for a week after the riots to make sure children were not on the streets or in danger.

Mr Tony Miller, National Union of Teachers executive member for the area, said teachers were disappointed by the criticisms but understood why they had been made. "Nobody at all can escape criticism," he said. "There has been a failure for years for education generally to provide the right kind of courses, for a lot of black pupils in particular."

He said: "We cannot go on having inquiries into dreadful disturbances. The root causes are now pretty generally known even if a certain incident sparked off conflagration."

"I can understand the anger and resentment of the community of Handsworth at the failure of successive governments to interest themselves in their desperate plight. Housing, social welfare, employment and education all have to be sorted out."

Letters, page 21



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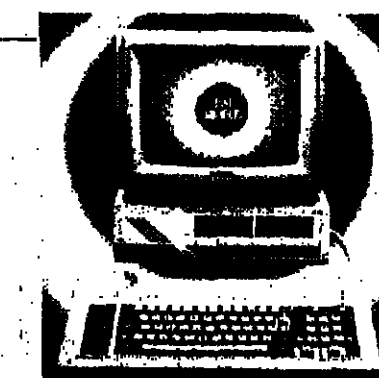
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RESEARCH MACHINES



Scraping a living... boys are better paid for domestic chores

Girls get kitchen sink feeling

Sex stereotyping is still prevalent at home - especially at weekends.

A new survey of 9 to 11-year-olds says girls spend more time on Saturdays doing domestic chores than their male classmates and are paid less for their efforts.

Eight out of 10 children spend an hour or more helping at home, but more girls than boys make their own bed, tidy their bedroom and wash up. Marginally more boys do gardening or help clean the family car. Average "earnings" are 66p for girls and 88p for boys.

A report of the survey conducted by *The News*, the BBC schools radio series, says: "Sex roles appear to be quite clear cut in this age range with girls taking on the 'housewife' role at an early age."

Forty-seven per cent of children said they spent four hours or more watching television on Saturdays, but boys consistently saw more than girls. Eleven per cent of all children said they watched television "most of the day" and in urban areas this rose to 19 per cent compared with 9 per cent in rural areas.

Other popular activities included

playing with friends, reading, listening to records and tapes, riding a bike, going shopping and swimming.

Girls were more interested in music (including playing an instrument) and dancing, while boys were more likely to play with toys or a computer, take part in a sport or watch a football match. Ninety-three per cent went out somewhere on Saturday and most spent some of their own money ranging from a few pence to £4. Half the children bought some sweets or food.

The survey is based on replies to a questionnaire from more than 8,000 pupils in 233 schools around Britain who listen to the programme. Past polls have investigated what children do at playtime, breakfast time and bedtime. *Saturday Survey* is available from BBC Schools Radio, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA.

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Bishop warns against 'watering down' RC intake

by Sarah Bayliss

Headteachers of Roman Catholic primary schools were warned this week against "watering down" their intakes by admitting non-Catholic pupils.

Giving evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Education, the Right Rev James Hannigan, Bishop of Menevia and chairman of the Catholic Education Council, said he was "quite resistant" to the admission of children from other faiths or no faith at all.

He was concerned that heads were accepting non-Catholic children "for the wrong reasons" - such as to boost pupil numbers and to avoid losing staff. One effect of their actions was to put teachers in county schools out of a job.

"We don't see ourselves as offering open arms to everyone who wants to come in," he said. "Our door is not as wide open as perhaps some headteachers might like."

In his own North Wales diocese he questioned school admission policies when the proportion of non-Catholics rose above 10 per cent. Nationally there are just under 2,000 Catholic primary schools and 8 per cent of pupils are non-Catholics. Over 90 per cent of the schools' teachers are Catholic.

When pressed about his objections by Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Belling North, Bishop Hannigan replied: "Some of us believe that when we water a thing down, even if it's Scotch whisky it's not as good as it was."

Asked about the admission of Asian pupils, Bishop Hannigan said responsibility for their religious education - if

it was other than Catholic - lay firmly with their parents.

He believed that Muslims should be allowed to establish voluntary aided schools "provided what they're asking for is not contrary to the greater good of the country."

Mr John Hampson, director of Catholic schools in Hexham and Newcastle and a former HMI, said voluntary aided schools, which were still rare in Britain, might develop in future "for that group of the population who want a Christian education." He referred to the success of the St John and St Patrick primary school in Sunderland which resulted from an amalgamation of a Church of England and a Catholic primary school.

Mr Richard Cunningham, secretary of the CEC, drew attention to the parlous state of many school buildings and the dissatisfaction with capital allocations for repairs and improvements. The lion's share of the capital was going to secondary schools which, following mergers or amalgamations, had to be brought up to new standards.

Members of the CEC and their counterparts from the Church of England had joined a new ad hoc group of DES officials set up by Sir Keith Joseph to discuss the issues. Mr Cunningham wanted to see the total allocation increased.

The delegation also complained that the voluntary sector had to pay VAT on building and maintenance work which could not be reclaimed.

Bishop Hannigan told MPs he would like a more flexible law governing religious worship in schools. A daily act of worship for the whole school caused difficulties and was "quite impossible" in some schools.

Mr Dan Chidgey, a former head and secretary of the Cardiff Education Commission, said it was difficult to devise an assembly for children 5-11. On some occasions it was appropriate to bring the whole school together and this should be legally permitted at times other than the beginning of every day. "I find that Friday afternoon is often a very good time."

Geographers worried over clampdown on field trips

By Julia Hagedorn

Local education authorities and governing bodies are insisting on a written permission for school field trips in the wake of the Land's End disaster, the Commons Select Committee inquiry into primary education has this week.

The president of the Geographical Association, Mr Patrick Bailey, said he was concerned that "what is a well-organized activity doesn't get snuffed out by the rare times when the teacher is incompetent."

Witnesses also complained that the lack of resources was hindering the teaching of geography. They would like to see a globe in every classroom and large-scale maps in every school.

But, as Mrs Wendy Morgan, head of a 64-pupil school near Ipswich, pointed out, in small schools like hers where the entire capitation was £1,200 it was impossible to find the money for compasses at £8 a pair or to buy large-scale maps when a single sheet alone cost £11.

The association would like to see geography becoming a compulsory part of all initial teacher training. Mr Simon Catling, of the education department at Oxford Polytechnic, said that some 100 hours of the course each year should be devoted to geography as part of integrated studies.

But since many of those who were going to teach the subject in school were not geographers, adequate in-service training was also vital. At present, there was almost none, apart from courses organized by the Geographical Association itself.

Mrs Morgan stressed that in rural Suffolk "in geography, you need in-service training in very big doses if you are to improve teaching in my school."

The association thought that geography teachers had a large part to play in multicultural education. By giving concrete case studies of how others lived, they could make the diversity of the world apparent and help children develop tolerance and understanding at an early age.

NEWS

Pupil skills risky basis for teacher appraisal

by Hilary Wilce

Teacher appraisal based on the testing of a narrow range of pupil skills would distort the whole curriculum. Yet there is no practical way of testing the complex range of skills that children acquire in the classroom, Dr Bryan Dockrell, director of the Scottish Council for Research in Education, warned this week.

Speaking to a conference of the British Educational Research Association in Sheffield, Dr Dockrell said there was no simple or obvious relationship between teaching and learning.

In one study carried out by SCRE researchers, which had looked at nine-year-old children over an academic year, no relationship could be found

between the pupils' progress and what the teachers did, Dr Dockrell said.

The council's secondary school studies had also failed to find a clear relationship between teaching and learning, Dr Dockrell said. But teaching targeted at specific issues, such as a mistake in German grammar, did have direct results on pupils' learning.

Asked if that meant that teacher appraisal simply could not work, Dr Dockrell said it was possible to devise sophisticated tests which would assess wider skills. "It can be done. But it takes a lot of people, and a lot of money, and a lot of time."

Owen issues pay warning

by Mark Jackson

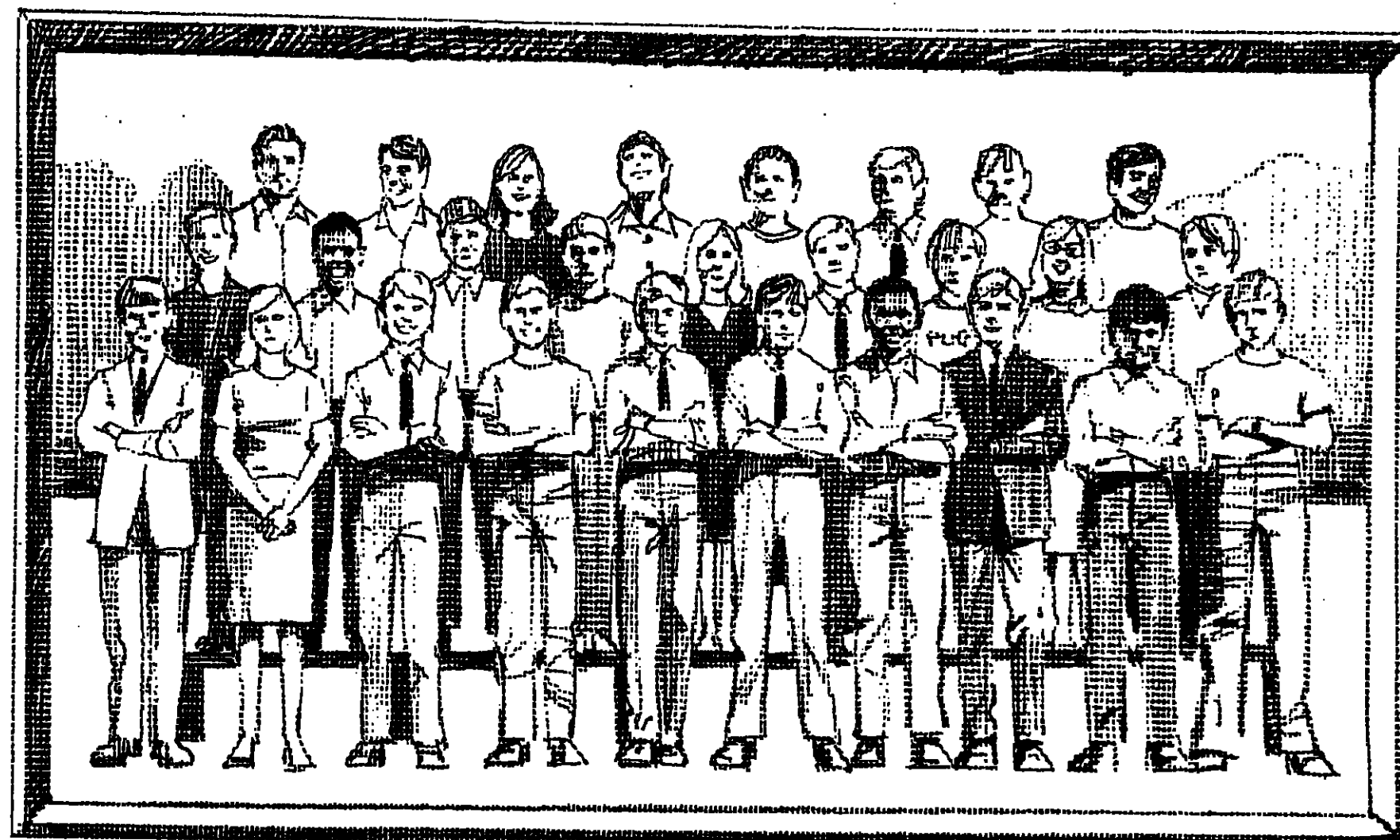
Not all teachers would be paid more by an SDE government, partly leader, Dr David Owen, said this week. Extra pay, he explained, would go only to those who deserved it.

To settle teachers' need will be very costly, but we will have to pay, he told businessmen at an Industrial Society conference. "However, no increases will be across the board. You've got to

pay on merit."

And merit, apparently, would be judged by teachers. "I am in favour of staff appraisal, but it should be done by teachers themselves," he said.

Heads - too many of them "burnt out" - should be appraised every five years and greater attention should be paid to teachers in their thirties, who could easily "get stuck".



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Council investigation expected to clear Lancashire officials who reported FE teacher

Lecturer in police inquiry criticizes l.e.a.

by Hilary Wilce

Lancashire council officials who reported a further education lecturer to the police for failing to reveal details of her two part-time jobs are expected to be absolved of blame by a County Hall committee.

The committee set up to examine the treatment of Mrs Pamela Ackroyd, a sociology lecturer, has found there was no technical breach of council procedures, although it was questionable whether the matter should have gone to the police. Its report, which is confidential, will go before the council's policy and resources committee next month.

But Mrs Ackroyd said last week that the committee had not invited her to give evidence, and her only knowledge of the inquiry had come through press reports and the lecturers' union, Nafhe. "I still want to know why the person who put my case in the hands of the police is not going to be disciplined," she said.

The Rev Ian Mackay, Nafhe's North Western regional official, said if officials had acted correctly "it raises many important questions about the adequacy of council procedures".

Mrs Ackroyd's case dates back to

1984 when she lodged a complaint of sex discrimination against the authority after failing to be shortlisted for a full-time post at Blackpool and Fylde College of Further and Higher Education, one of two colleges where she had been working part-time. She also worked at Lancaster and Morecambe College of FE.

On the first day of the tribunal hearing, in September 1984, she outlined details of her employment position. The tribunal was then adjourned because the chairman fell ill.

At the Blackpool college Mrs Ackroyd had signed, but not filled in, a form asking for details of any other employment. She did this, she says, after taking advice both from Nafhe and from an education officer about the status of the form.

At Lancaster she had been asked to sign a contract which included a declaration that she would not be working for more than 12 hours a week for the authority. She had signed the form, but deleted the "do" part of the declaration which had read: "I do not accept these conditions". The form, when later produced by the council had had both alternatives de-

leted. Within two weeks of her tribunal hearing opening Mrs Ackroyd lost both her part-time jobs. A letter from Blackpool College said she had been dismissed for having "knowingly misled" the authority. Lancaster College told her that her work had gone to a full-time member of staff. Mrs Ackroyd now works as an administrative assistant at Lancaster Polytechnic.

At the beginning of October 1984 she was telephoned by the Morecambe police and told to come to the police station that day or risk arrest. She subsequently discovered that she had been reported by the l.e.a. for a possible offence under Section 16 of the 1968 Theft Act - "obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception".

When she went to the station two days later the solicitor who accompanied her quickly demonstrated to the police that there was no case to answer, since remuneration for all her part-time work appeared on a single payslip.

In the settlement of her tribunal case Mrs Ackroyd was awarded £200 costs and £500 for the "distress and injury to her feelings", and the authority agreed it would consult the Equal Opportu-

nities Commission and the Commission for Racial Equality on equal opportunities policies.

The county's policy and resources committee then set up a committee to look into the circumstances surrounding the case. The chair, Dr Ruth Henig, said Mrs Ackroyd had not been called to give evidence because the committee felt it had sufficient facts to judge her case.

The committee would be recommending that if a similar case occurred in future, the chair of the relevant committee should be informed before action was taken by officers, Dr Henig said. She also acknowledged that the case had raised many important questions about the basis on which part-time lecturers are employed.

The confusion turns on the question of the so-called "12-hour rule". College heads and the local authority fear that part-timers who are able to aggregate more than 12 hours' teaching a week, in different institutions, can make a claim for associate lecturership status, and could also be eligible for employment protection and redundancy pay.

Because of this, the authority's policy should be to ensure that principals should be careful about recruiting part-timers to work more than 12 hours a week. Some colleges in the county notably Blackpool College and Wigan College, in Preston, impose this as a ban on part-timers working elsewhere, and Nafhe members have declared a collective dispute the issue.

But Mr Mackay said that probably well over 100 part-time lecturers were employed for more than one Lancashire institution, and there was a written agreement that hours worked at different colleges could not be aggregated to make a claim for associate lecturership status.

On employment protection and redundancy pay, he said, Nafhe held the view that aggregation was possible, but the employment tribunal had recently ruled otherwise.

The union had been asking for clarification of the authority's policy on part-timers, but had now been waiting nine months for a reply. It seems to me their policy is in a disarray," he said.

Complaint against l.e.a.

A Wiltshire councillor has filed a complaint against his own education authority saying it is failing to carry out morning worship in its schools.

Mr Fred Naylor, a former head of Bath Technical School and one-time Schools Council officer, has complained to Sir Keith Joseph that Wiltshire is failing to meet the requirements of Section 25 of the 1944 Education Act that every school day should begin with collective worship.

He also claims that the council has shown "clearly expressed hostility" to Section 25 and has shown by a vote it does not wish to see it carried out.

Mr Naylor has asked Sir Keith to make an order that the authority is in default of its duty and to direct it to meet its obligations. Under Section 99 of the Act the Education Secretary is empowered to do this with a mandamus, a judicial writ issued by the courts.

Travel

Bring the eight universities under the Scottish Office...

Close three colleges of education...

These are only two of the twenty-three recommendations in the report of the Scottish Tertiary Education Advisory Council

The TESS has produced a single-sheet summary of the report. It is available, price 25p, from the Times Educational Supplement Scotland, 56 Hanover Street, Edinburgh EH2 2DZ.

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Brent review tightens child care liaison

by Susannah Kirkman

The report of the inquiry into the death of four-year-old Jasmine Beckford has prompted a review by Brent l.e.a. to ensure that no "child in trust" is "let down" by the education service.

Jasmine was battered to death in July 1984 by her stepfather, Maurice Beckford, who is now serving a 10-year sentence for manslaughter.

Brent's review says that liaison between the social services and teachers has already improved. In line with recommendations made by the Blom-Cooper committee in its report last year.

As the report suggested, every school is now to appoint a member of staff who will liaise with social services to gather and pass on information about children in care or those listed on the child abuse register.

The liaison officer - probably a primary or nursery school headteacher with pastoral responsibilities in a secondary school - will attend case conferences and will contact the child abuse register and the Education Welfare Service if staff suspect a child is being abused.

The Blom-Cooper report, "A Child in Trust", criticized staff at Jasmine's school for failing to appreciate the significance of her erratic attendance. Jasmine's absences coincided with the times she received her worst injuries.

The social services were also blamed for not telling the school about the care order on Jasmine.

In future, headteachers will be given the names of senior social workers to contact when dealing with "problem" cases. And the social services will provide schools with a list of pupils on the child abuse register in care, or at home for a trial period after being in care.

Senior managers in the social and education services are meeting at least once a month to monitor links between the two services. They are also discussing ways to ensure that no child at risk transferring from a different school or l.e.a., can slip through the net.

A working party is preparing guidelines for schools on child abuse and is planning in-service training for teachers and education welfare officers. Meanwhile, headteachers are to draw their staff's attention to Brent's "Green Book", which gives guidance on non-accidental injuries to children.

Education welfare officers are now also visiting parents of children not attending nursery school regularly, but are instructed to use "tact and understanding", as parents have the right to withdraw their child unless he or she is under a care order.



Royal opening: Princess Anne opened the new extensions at Blockley Church England primary school in Gloucestershire last week. The princess is seen with school's headteacher, Mr David Walsh.

Governors urge dismissal of principal over expenses

Governors of a Leeds catering college have recommended dismissal of the principal following allegations of false expenses claims amounting to between £4,000 and £7,000.

City council auditors alleged that Dr Brian Boffey, principal of the Thomas Danby college, had claimed car mileage after using a bicycle or moped, and rail fares after travelling by coach. He was also accused of claiming

expenses from two organizations for attending one meeting, oversteering mileage, charging the city council private journeys and keeping the city had received for representing the college.

The 35-member board of governors voted unanimously at a private meeting to recommend Dr Boffey's dismissal to the education authority which the final decision is made. Dr Boffey declined to comment.

Anti-smoking materials

Special anti-smoking teaching materials were issued to schools to coincide with National No-smoking Day on Wednesday.

They were produced by the Health Education Council's Family Smoking Education Project, based at Manchester University.

The percentage of secondary school children who smoke has now risen to 22 per cent, according to a survey by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys last year.

The biggest increase is among 14 to 15-year-old girls, 24 per cent of whom smoke, compared with 15 per cent in 1982.

Handbooks on science

Leicestershire education authority has published a series of handbooks on science teaching from 5 to 16 years. The handbooks offer a co-ordinated curriculum approach to the teaching of science throughout a child's school life.

There are also handbooks, ranging from Primary Science to Science Education for the Cultural Society.

They are available, price £1.50, from George Gollery, 62R Coventry Road, Westcoates Science and Technology Centre, Narborough Rd, Leicestershire.

Labour plans to make employers pay

by Mike Durham

A new deal for the over-16s to make education and training a "single operation" is proposed in a Labour Party study document this week. It envisages funding by compulsory employers' contributions.

Among the proposals put forward by the authors, a working party appointed by Labour's shadow ministers, are educational maintenance allowances; a single government department to oversee training for jobs; and the right to training, retraining, and continued education at any age.

The report advocates an "insurance-based" programme funded by employers and the Government which would ensure that between 1 and 2 per cent of a firm's turnover was set aside for training school-leavers and employees. The latter would also have to pay contributions.

The report, *Education and Training: Options for Labour*, has been drawn up by a study group chaired by Mr Barry Sheerman, Opposition spokesman for training, who is responsible jointly to the shadow education and employment secretaries.

The group started from the premise that education and training as they exist have become hopelessly fragmented and fail to meet the needs of most young people, and older people already in work.

Mr Sheerman said at the document's launch this week: "The more we looked at it, the more certain we became that education and training are not only failing individuals, but also failing the corporate sector."

The study group aimed to reach a synthesis of the best policies for both

individuals and society as a whole, and forge a new path. It builds on the agreed TUC-Labour Party statement of 1984, *A Plan for Training*, but appears to question some of the 1984 assumptions.

The main problem facing education and training, according to the study group, is the increasing fragmentation of job training, with multiplicity of different qualifications at national and local level.

"We need to bring education and training much closer together, and we need to make sure that the education system plays a full part in giving people the competence to act effectively in the world of work," Mr Sheerman said.

It endorses the already-agreed Labour policy for an educational maintenance allowance, which would allow young people, as well as older employees, paid time for training, and legislation for a right to education and training.

The report goes on to suggest several options for rationalizing the delivery of education and training as a single operation. They include:

● A new Department of Education and Training with responsibility for delivery through both the local authorities and the Manpower Services Commission. But this, it says, might produce "uneasy bedfellows" at the level of delivery.

● A Department of Education and Training acting entirely through l.e.a.s. Authorities would each have

post-16 or tertiary committees responsible for all youth or adult training in their areas. But this would suffer from inbuilt differences between l.e.a.s., and would require more direct Government funding.

● A single department acting through newly devised local education and training bodies separate from l.e.a.s. They would include representatives from l.e.a.s., unions, employers, and other interests. However, they might not be able to agree on proper representation and an overall approach, warns the report.

● A break between youth training and adult education and training. Local authorities would run post-16 education and training through new committees, while adult education and training would be organized by a revised form of the MSC.

Local authorities would take on planning and financial support, including provision of the Youth Training Scheme. Initial education and training would be funded by the state. There would still be friction between the two arms of the service - but this could be overcome by a new statutory framework.

Some members of the working party want legislation drawn up well before the next election so that it can be put into effect at once if a Labour Government takes office.

Mr John Prescott, Opposition spokesman on employment, said: "The first priority is clearly to make industry pay its share of the training of young people. It is clear that we can no longer rely on management to do this. We have the worst trained work-



Barry Sheerman

force in the world and that is an indictment of the present Government." Labour intended to put education and training at the top of its list of priorities if it took office, he promised.

The study group report is not, as yet, Labour Party policy: the options it discusses will be put to the party's Education and Training Policy Subcommittee and a final policy document is expected to be issued in the summer.

There are indications that some of its underlying approach will be strongly resisted by the TUC's old guard, who oppose any tampering with the MSC's control of training.

Education and Training: Options for Labour, a Report of a Parliamentary Spokesman's Study Group, is available from Barry Sheerman, MP, at the House of Commons, price £1.

Boost for experience learning

A national organization is being set up to promote recognition of learning gained outside the education system.

The formation of the Learning From Experience Trust was announced last week by Sir Charles Carter, chairman of the research committee of the Policy Studies Institute which has been developing ways of assessing the value of experience as an entry qualification for further and higher education courses.

The studies have led to a major programme sponsored by the Council for National Academic Awards in polytechnics all over the country, and are arousing the interest of big employers and the Manpower Services Commission.

Sir Charles told a conference at Lancaster University it was now clear the approach was relevant to everyone who had left school. It had been taken up in the Youth Training Scheme where there was a need - particularly among underprivileged trainees - to achieve the best possible record.

Earlier Sir Charles asserted that everyone built up a fund of learning from early childhood. Its assessment would be important to those young people entering the 1990s with no work experience.

He also referred to the CNA's credit accumulation and transfer scheme which moved the pattern of higher education nearer the American model. Credits for assessed experience could count towards a degree, and learning contracts between students and their employers could combine work experience and course credits to yield a first degree.

Careers advice warning

by Jill Sherman

A warning of the dangers of careers advice was given to a surprised Industrial Society conference this week.

It came from a school-to-work expert who pointed out that half the jobs which will be available in the year 2000 have not yet been invented.

"How can we start pushing them down tunnels when we are at best telling them about today's or yesterday's jobs?" asked Mr Ron Bradley, schools and industry liaison officer for Norfolk.

The best thing teachers could aspire to is for young people to be competent and confident. "The education system delivers people who are very competent but not confident. They have the whole package in their hands which they cannot use," he said.

If schools, however, wanted to call on industry to help in careers advice, they had to be able to sell themselves. "You have to know what you want before you go to industry. You have to sell the idea and sell the benefit," he said. Teachers should not give managers the opportunity to say no.

Mr Bradley, who is employed by the Norfolk Education Industry and Commerce Group, suggested that in order to promote careers for girls schools should take advantage of existing well organized women's networks. All professional associations now had a women's department which could be contacted for advice.

Single certificate urged

A single certificate of qualification to cover all vocational courses for the 16 to 19-year-olds has been proposed by the Institute of Directors.

It would be awarded for the courses at present certificated by a large number of bodies, which would continue to offer their syllabuses subject to new national criteria.

The institute's plan is published as the Government-sponsored MSC Review of Vocational Qualifications is completing its recommendations for a coherent national system of awards. The review group, which reports next month intends recommending that a new body be created to oversee the system.

The institute proposes that it should be a vocational council in parallel to the Secondary Examinations Council, able to ensure that courses place the right emphasis on practical skills, that tests and exams measure standards of competence, and that employers' requirements are met.

It says: "It is especially important that members of the vocational council should be selected for the relevance of their practical knowledge and experience and not as representatives of particular factions."

The institute argues that while it would be "natural" for employers to be closely involved, and that an input from the providers of courses is needed, the council needs to be independent (which suggests that the institute does not want union representation). The vocational council is seen as an autonomous body reporting to the Education Secretary, and with close working links with the MSC.

Province focuses on jobs

The Northern Ireland youth service should cater specifically for the unemployed 18-plus group according to the province's Department of Education. In a consultative document it warns that the present purely recreational approach will have to be questioned if the needs of those alienated from parents, schools and the forces of law

and order are to be met. Youth centres may have to take over from the work place in creating the right environment for the young to mature.

Agencies are asked to consider whether holiday schemes are still an appropriate means of building bridges between the province's divided communities.

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ASTA/ATOL 1980

A month ago *TES* reporters visited four schools to find out how they had coped with a year of industrial hostilities. How are they now faring in the aftermath of the pay truce?

Parents are baffled by continuing action

Up to three classes are still being sent home every day from Rushcroft school, a small middle school in the Chingford constituency of Tory Party chairman, Mr Norman Tebbit.

The acting head, Ms Angela Kane, does not expect the formal ending of the pay dispute to make much difference to the level of disruption at the school. More than half the teachers, both National Union of Teachers and National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers members, are refusing to cover for absent teachers or to take part in out-of-school activities.

Parents are baffled that more classes are being cancelled than six months ago. Children are being sent home more often because the school has a teaching vacancy and supply teachers are harder to get.

Waltham Forest has exacerbated the

Waltham Forest

problem with its plan to reorganize secondary education in the borough. Headteachers were taken out of the schools in January to prepare for the new 11 to 16 schools. Rushcroft's head had a teaching load of 20 hours a week. In addition, the school's teachers have to apply for new jobs, taking them out of school for interviews.

The uncertainty the reorganization has created, coupled with the effect of a long pay dispute, has lowered the morale of staff in a school that has a high reputation that extends beyond its immediate catchment area. The school was built in 1978, one of the last to go up before falling rolls began to have an impact, and it serves an area where

inner city begins to give way to suburbia.

Last summer it was one of the schools targeted by the NUT because it was in a Conservative minister's constituency and for six weeks the school closed down three days a week.

The NUT has 20 members out of a staff of 32. Two signed up last week after resigning from the NAS/UWT in protest at their union's policy of returning to normal duties following the pay settlement.

Other NAS/UWT members at Rushcroft are still not doing some of the work they did before the dispute. According to Mr Dick Roberts, the NAS/UWT representative, some members are also unhappy at not being able to decide whether they want to return to normal work.

At the moment, NAS/UWT members are waiting for "clarification" from head office on what the union means by its instruction to return to normal work.

Mr Peter Knights, head of humanities, and an NUT member, says it will be a long time before teachers get over the bitterness about a pay deal that has not brought them a professional salary. He feels the withdrawal of goodwill may have to continue for some time.

There are staffroom fears that continued disruption of classes will lose teachers parental support. At Rushcroft there have been few actual complaints from parents, but teachers acknowledge that does not mean parents approve of their action.

"I think parents feel we are not adequately paid, but some parents were not keen on the tactics of the dispute," said humanities teacher Mrs Val Allport.

Sadly, no one was willing to predict that there will soon be a return to the days when schools were a hive of clubs and extra-curricular activities and teachers were in constant contact with parents.

"There are now teachers who have only known what it is to teach without having to combine teaching with all the other things teachers do," said Ms Kane.



Few Rushcroft parents have complained... but that doesn't mean they approve of the unions' tactics

Eating out... but not through choice

It is more than two weeks since the last strike at Osselt School, near Wakefield - a half-day stoppage by the National Union of Teachers which exempted exam candidates.

But pupils are still having to leave school at lunchtime, most extra-curricular activities are at a standstill, and not a single teacher, let alone head of department, has had any training for the new exam, the GCSE.

The NUT, whose members are still just preparing lessons, teaching and marking, has increased its membership from 35 to about 40 of the 82 staff.

Whatever happens in the next few weeks, there will never be a return to the position that existed before the dispute started 13 months ago.

Mr John Horn, the headteacher of the 1,325-pupil Yorkshire comprehensive, is expecting little, if any, change over mid-day supervision. At the moment, about 350 children a day are going without a school meal because of industrial action. Pupils on free meals and younger children - with first and second-year groups alternating - are taking a canteen meal. Others have to leave the school site.

Mr Horn hopes another year group may get lunches but believes that any new scheme must involve volunteer teachers.

Mr Horn is hoping for some move on curriculum development. Meetings

Wakefield

of school or at lunch-time are still regarded as voluntary by the teacher unions. "I am not organizing a sudden rash of meetings in the last fortnight of term; I am only holding one, which is looking at the organization of the special needs department and I think that will be well-attended."

He is planning a parents' evening for families of fifth and sixth-formers involving heads of departments, and early next term he hopes for a meeting with parents of third and fourth-years.

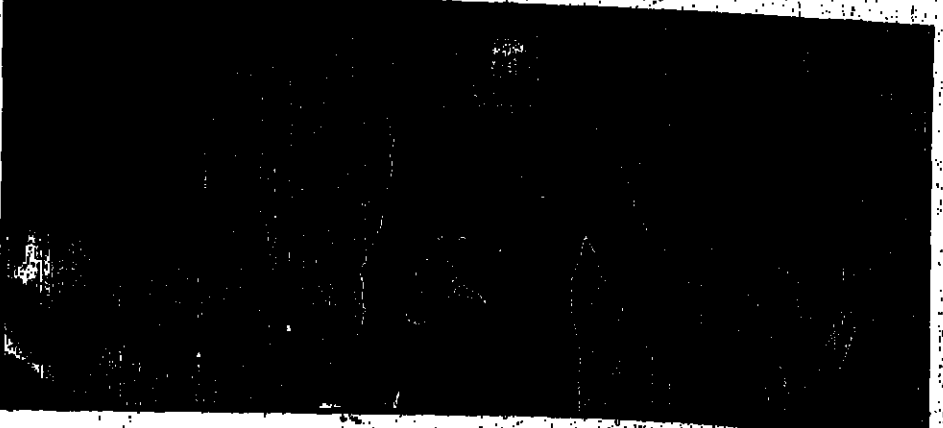
"If we want to involve first and second-year pupils, we would be looking at partial closure to let parents in during the school day," said Mr Horn.

He agrees that the GCSE should be postponed, on educational grounds. "I have not a member of staff who is yet trained in GCSE."

Some pupils may still have to be sent home because of "no cover" action by the NUT. Mr Horn, who has taken on a teaching role during the dispute, intends to use supply teachers when possible. But he hopes some of his staff will accept that sometimes they have to be used to prevent youngsters being sent home.

Some boys' games have been continuing during the dispute because the head of PE is a non-union member but other sports, drama and music have stopped.

"There is a certain degree of resignation," Mr Horn added. "I think there is feeling among those from associations that signed the pay agreement that it was the best deal and a way forward. Now the hope is that the negotiations will go well and the Government will be told: 'Right, here you are and it is going to cost you...'"



James Meikle

John Horn: "There's a certain degree of resignation."



Many Waltham Forest parents accept that teachers are poorly paid

Summer camp for juniors goes ahead

A summer camp for top juniors will go ahead at West Town primary school in Peterborough, although there are not many other signs of a return to normal working.

Cambridgeshire

The camp, which is run every year by an NAS/UWT member, will take place next term for children who are transferring to secondary school in September.

"The teacher came to me this week and said the Acsa deal meant she would be going ahead," says Martin Cressley, the headteacher. "I'm delighted she's doing it."

But the school, which has six NUT members, two NAS/UWT and one from PAT, is unlikely to change other habits of the past year before the end of term.

"It's all a bit messy isn't it?" says Mr Cressley. "I think we will carry on for the next few weeks as we've done for the past 12 months unless, and until, the picture gets clearer."

"I'm not suddenly going to introduce after-school clubs before Easter - that would be stupid. And I've no plans for any major staff meetings between now and the end of term. It would be insensitive to dive in and arrange them, especially when I know the NUT are still instructed to carry on sanctions."

He understands that the union has lifted the instruction banning voluntary duties but that there has been no parallel instruction telling members to resume those duties.

"There is talk of the local organization deciding what instructions should be given, but that position is not yet clear."

During the dispute the school always obtained supply cover, as all but one member of staff refused to stand in for

absent colleagues.

"Cambridgeshire has been very accommodating in making supply available for heads and I hope it will continue," he said. If a teacher absent in the coming weeks, he will apply automatically for supply cover.

At West Town, where the staff has been strongly united on the issue, several initiatives have been taken which do not negate industrial action but which cancel out some of the most self-mutilating effects.

And at least one initiative has made its mark will continue. Last summer the school offered parents "open week" when they could come any afternoon to see their children's work and talk to teachers and the head.

It was a substitute for parental evenings but its success means it will be repeated this summer.

Sarah Bayle

NUT orders a repeat prescription

Gwent

"Very little change here," is the title report from Mr. Mervyn Phillips, head of the 1,000-pupil Elbow Vale senior comprehensive school.

It is not surprising. Not in a school where the NUT ethos predominates, exemplified by the head who is a member of both the local and of the county associations, and with 34 union members in the staff of 60.

But had not the 19 members of the NAS/UWT resumed "normal working" following their union's acceptance of the Acsa deal?

"It's too early to say what they are doing," says Mr Phillips. "It's a matter which doesn't have the same old-fashioned ordinance in this area as the NUT. Round here both the secretary and president are primary heads for a while. What we have noticed is that since the NAS/UWT acceptance, the NUT is beginning to pick up more members."

Mr Phillips emphasizes that his union's prescription - prepare, mark and nothing more - will continue. "We won't be involved in GCSE in September. We've made that clear. And although the solidarity of parents with the teachers is outstanding, he does acknowledge a dilemma.

"A fourth-year parent would know why her child was being sent home from school. I explained it for the fifth-year parent complaining that his child was not being exposed to a scale mock. I had to take off my hat and make a management decision about the mocks. I do confess

Bert Lloyd

James Meikle surveys the scene in the week following the pay agreement while Biddy Passmore reports on a NUT man who is so fed up with the state sector that he is launching his own private school

Local rows keep staff from 'normal work'

Thousands of teachers whose union signed the agreement to end industrial action are still refusing to return to "normal work" because of local disputes.

Members of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers are giving a mixed response to the lifting of instructions on industrial action. Local secretaries predicted less "goodwill" than before and a patchy return to activities teachers regard as voluntary.

In some areas NAS/UWT members are still, like National Union of Teachers members, refusing to cover, carry out midday supervision, attend parents' meetings outside school time or help plan the curriculum outside hours.

And also like the NUT, the NAS/UWT is maintaining a national policy of boycotting preparations for the GCSE.

Disruption by NAS/UWT members is continuing in Birmingham because of a dispute over "fining" teachers £6

for every 30 minutes of strike action. Branch secretary Mrs Chris Keates said money for striking should be deducted in proportion to the time not worked and the scale of the teacher concerned.

Even if the local dispute ended, fewer people would return to voluntary activities.

Bedfordshire NAS/UWT members are also continuing sanctions because the authority has sent a letter to all teachers saying that some activities were contractual because of custom and practice. Mr Tony Callaghan, NAS/UWT secretary, said this was a breach of existing agreements.

He said: "We are quite happy to return to these activities if the chief education officer withdraws the letter or agrees to negotiations with us on payments for these activities."

Mr Joe Lowrey, Manchester secretary of the NAS/UWT branch, said members would not be happily returning to parents' evenings, staff meetings or activities outside school hours.

"There is going to be a very big sell on contract and they are not prepared to give away time when they are hoping to sell it later and sell it very dearly."

Areas where local talks are likely because of disputes include: Solihull, Bexley, Croydon, Rotherham, Doncaster, Hampshire, Buckinghamshire, Humberside, Suffolk, Wigan and Dorset. Pay has been deducted from teachers who refused to cover. Croydon and Suffolk also deducted money from members who failed to attend staff meetings or parents evenings.

Meanwhile, the National Union of Teachers is resisting attempts to make

it call off industrial action in return for playing a part in talks on teachers' future salaries and contracts.

Union leaders have made it clear that the NUT will neither drop sanctions nor adopt the Acsa memorandum that led to the 1985 pay rise and new moves to agree a long-term future for the profession.

The employers are saying the NUT must change its mind although there was no move to exclude the union from a meeting last Friday to fix procedures for future talks.

Sir Pat Lowry, the Acsa chairman, and Mr Dennis Boyd, Acsa chief conciliation officer, had an informal meeting with NUT leaders last Wednesday because of the employers' worries.

The union says it joined the talks, under the guidance of an independent three-man panel, because it was invited to by Sir Pat, who set no preconditions.

Other unions which did sign the Acsa memorandum seemed alarmed

at the employers' demands at such an early stage in the talks. There is general concern that the NUT should be as fully involved as possible since it represents nearly half the teaching profession.

The timetable that has now been fixed gives the NUT leadership a chance to report to annual conference at Blackpool which is expected to endorse the steps it has taken.

About 20,000 headteachers and deputies were advised by their union to close their schools at lunchtime yesterday as the National Association of Head Teachers stepped up its campaign for a national agreement on midday supervision. The NAHT says local schemes are inadequate.

UCAC, the 3,000-strong Welsh teachers' union, is balloting its members on whether or not to continue strike action, writes Iola Smith. Until the result is announced at the union's annual conference in April, members will refuse to cover for absent colleagues and will not resume any voluntary duties.

Watch on exams

A-level candidates and their schools have been advised to inform the Polytechnic Central Admissions System where they believe preparations have been affected by the teachers' dispute.

Boom for private paragon in NW3

by Biddy Passmore

Since Ralph Wade, a former primary teacher, announced a few weeks ago that he was starting his own private school, he has had to install an Answerphone to cope with the rush of inquiries.

"People with their children are queuing on the front steps of the house," he says. "There's an enormous thud of letters every day."

The denizens of the North London area of Hampstead are keen on education. And they have, it seems, got fed up with the disruption in state schools over the past year. Local private schools have been deluged with applications, but most are already full. Hence the success of Mr Wade's little venture.

enough to pay his staff "reasonable rates" and even, perhaps, to pay himself more than the £10,500 he was earning after 15 years in the state sector.

Mr Wade is optimistic about Paragon Hill's prospects. In fact, he is unstoppable.

"It's going to be the finest, most brilliant little school in the whole of Hampstead," he says. "People will be dying to get in."

They already are.



Ralph Wade, who is opening a private school, is pictured with pupils at Holy Trinity Church of England primary school.

Delay over back pay

Teachers in Oxfordshire may have to wait until the summer holidays before they receive all their back pay from the 1985 official settlement.

This follows a letter from the Secondary Heads' Association to all 104 local education authorities in England and Wales asking if the Burnham agreement could be paid in the 1985-6 tax year.

Now Oxfordshire County Council has said that the protracted nature of the dispute had given it "very considerable difficulties" in calculating back pay.

Oxfordshire's letter said it could be August before all the payroll staff had received their money. It added that it thought other authorities were experiencing similar difficulties.

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Next week, a delegation of mothers of young Nicaraguan teachers who have been kidnapped and assassinated by the right-wing "Contra" forces will be visiting Britain. Representatives of the "Mothers of the Disappeared" will be asking the British public to support an end to what they regard as US-backed aggression. Pat Daniel, who recently returned from Nicaragua, reports on the problems - and dangers - facing teachers there.

Teachers become targets of counter-revolution

Even if peace reigned in Nicaragua and vital resources were not being channelled to defend it, it would be no easy task to bring education to the countryside. The population is scattered among the mountains, on isolated farms many kilometres from the nearest village; the tracks are steep, rough and rutted, treacherous in wet weather.

As well as the geographical problems, there are also traditional attitudes to contend with, explained Reynaldo, a teacher from Estelí. "Boys and girls enter adult work very young; the benefits of education are not immediately appreciated, especially now that agricultural production is so important for the survival of the country."

Despite - or perhaps because of - the various economic, military and development problems of the country, the Sandinista government has always made education a high priority and, like other young socialist states, looked for ingenious ways of providing it.

The first step, nine months after the overthrow of the Somoza regime in 1979, was a literacy campaign, in which 60,000 young people volunteered to teach basic literacy and numeracy in the mountains, which was said to have succeeded in reducing the illiteracy rate from around 50 per cent to around 12 per cent. Seven of these volunteers, the youngest only 18, were assassinated by the anti-Sandinista forces.

Recognizing the need to sustain and build on this success, but still short of trained teachers, the government in 1984 again approached the *Juventud Sandinista* (the national youth organization) to provide volunteers.

Fifteen hundred young people between the ages of 18 and 26, two-thirds



This girl, an 18-year-old volunteer teacher in the Fiftieth Anniversary Brigade, has spent two years instructing in isolated mountain villages.

of them women, came forward to form the "Fiftieth Anniversary Education Brigade" (commemorating the year Sandino was assassinated). Cuba provided them with a four and a half-month intensive training course, before they were sent to isolated posts in the mountains.

As Belisario, a member of the brigade, put it: "More than just teaching, though, our task was to share the lives of the campesinos, work with them - repairing roads, helping to vaccinate babies, even build our own school."

Living conditions are difficult - lack of bed coverings, uncertain electricity, no newspapers or radio - and the country also suffers from a severe shortage of paper. "You have to work out how you're going to cut up bits of paper so that students can carry on doing their work," one volunteer said.

As if this was not enough, within two months of their arrival the teachers became a target for the counter-revolutionary bands who at that time were able to hide out in the jungle-like mountain environment. Four were kidnapped and, when this did not

In Britain, Mrs Thatcher is looking at further ways of extending parental choice. The issue is also high on the political agenda in the United States, where President Reagan's voucher Bill has run into trouble, and in France, where the main opposition parties have made greater freedom to choose schools a central plank of their election platform

Bennett accused of 'teasing the poor' with voucher plan

UNITED STATES

The Reagan Administration's plan to introduce tuition vouchers is getting a rough passage in Congress and Education Secretary William Bennett has found himself under fire from both sides.

Under the proposed Equity and Choice Act - which has been given the acronym of TEACH - parents of children eligible for Federal remedial education aid would be given vouchers worth about \$600 (£400), redeemable at any public, private or parochial school. The Act would replace the 20-year-old Chapter One programme, which currently provides \$3.2 billion in remedial education aid to about 4.8 million low-income children.

In a four-hour hearing before the House Elementary, Secondary and Vocational Education Sub-committee, Mr Bennett described his voucher scheme as "an idea whose time has come."

"It's an idea whose time came and went 200 years ago", retorted the committee chairman, Californian Democrat August Hawkins.

Mr Bennett cited a Gallup poll, purportedly showing that more Americans favoured parental choice in their children's education than supported raising taxes to cover education costs. A Republican Congressman, William Goodling, promptly told him: "That's like me saying, Mr Secretary, before dinner, would you like Scotch or would you like cyanide?"

Mr Goodling, a former high school head from Pennsylvania, pointed out that the proposed vouchers would not cover the cost of tuition at most private schools (the average private elementary school fee is \$890). "I'm not sure we aren't teasing the poor," he said.

When Mr Bennett contended that



William Bennett

his Bill would provide more education options for "our less wealthy and less privileged citizens," Chairman Hawkins returned to the attack. It would not help parents of children eligible for Chapter One aid who were not receiving it because of the Reagan Administration's cuts in education funding, he said, adding that only 40 per cent of those entitled were currently receiving aid.

New York Democrat Major Owens called the Bill "a swindle" that would allow schools to shirk their responsibility to remedial students, and the hearing rapidly developed into an attack on the Administration's whole education policy. Dale Kildee, a Democrat from Michigan, accused Mr Reagan of being "stingy with children."

"We have to take into consideration small items such as the \$210 billion deficit," replied Mr Bennett. More Federal spending on schools, he contended, would deny power to states and localities.

The voucher proposal has been vigorously opposed by education associations, which say it would siphon resources from public schools. Its main supporters have been Catholic groups,

which account for about 85 per cent of the private elementary school places in the United States and might be expected to get a strong influx of students through the scheme. The Catholics argue that it would provide recourse for the parochial school students who have been going without Chapter One services since the Supreme Court ruled that public school teachers cannot teach on parochial school premises.

Mr Bennett, himself a Catholic, has claimed that the Bill would be more likely to promote movement of children among public schools than into the private sector. However, Mary Jean Letendre, director of the Education Department's compensatory education programme, told the committee hearing that TEACH would not override widespread state and local statutes which prohibit the transfer of students from one school district to another.

Nor are vouchers the only Reagan Administration scheme currently worrying the American public schools. In the background, though it has yet to be introduced, is proposed legislation for tuition tax credits. At a cost of \$370 million, this scheme will allow families earning no more than \$40,000 a year to deduct up to 50 per cent of private tuition fees from their income tax.

The proposal is defended by the Education Department on the ground that it will improve parental choice. Since it is to be funded from uncollected taxes, it is argued that it will not take money from other education programmes.

Not everyone agrees. Mr Jack Jennings, counsel to the House Education and Labour Committee, for one, said that he regarded the timing of the plan, in the light of the cuts being proposed in the education budget, as "absolutely outrageous."

Bill Norris

Right may pull down catchment boundaries

FRANCE

An end to France's rigid school catchment areas could follow if, as is widely expected, President Mitterrand loses his Socialist majority in the parliamentary elections on Sunday.

"Freedom, flexibility and responsibility" are key words in the common platform of the major right-wing parties, the UDF (*Union pour la Démocratie Française*) and the RPR (*Rassemblement pour la République*). It promises more choice for both parents and teachers, although still within the strict confines of the centralized French system.

However, President Mitterrand has said he intends to remain in office at least until the presidential election in 1988, which may make it difficult for the right to implement their platform.

In addition to radical changes in schools, the opposition parties want to see universities slimmer down to a more human scale and encouraged to raise standards by imposing admission limits and selective entry procedures. They would be given greater autonomy and the right to award their own diplomas.

The right-wing parties advocate only a gradual phasing out of school catchment areas. Madame Michèle Alliot-Marie, the RPR's national secretary for education and a possible future education minister, says there is no real danger of bulging school walls in some places and deserted classrooms in others.

"We only expect 10 to 15 per cent of parents to exercise their choice for purely practical reasons," she says. "In rural areas there often is no alternative, and our action will eventually mean that parents will no longer feel the need to avoid certain schools."

She is confident that their programme, which includes a tightening up of discipline, will improve standards all round. "Only half-a-dozen or so will

find themselves besieged by candidates and they will select pupils according to their own criteria which may be place of residence or performance in certain subjects. The phasing out will be gradual so that our action will have time to take effect first."

Catchment areas were first introduced in the 1960s. From nursery school upwards, children must go to the neighbouring school unless they have special requirements it cannot meet, when a dispensation may be possible. Every new school year, requests for them flow in. At primary level it is often possible to obtain permission from the mayor but it becomes more difficult at secondary level.

Parents may ask for unusual subjects taught only in the coveted school and, all else failing, may even give a false address. As one parent association comments, "If parents fought as hard to improve teaching conditions as they do to get dispensations, education would be a lot better off."

Much in demand are the lower-secondary "colleges" attached to the older lycées with high success rates in the school-leaving exam, and preparatory classes for the *élite grande école* which provide France with most of her high-flying administrators, politicians and industrialists.

One parent, a magistrate, even took legal action last year to have his son admitted to the prestigious *Henri IV lycée* in the Latin Quarter of Paris. Demand there is double the yearly intake and parents have long turned a blind eye to a certain amount of string-pulling. Thirty dispensations are granted a year, but this year the parent associations protested that the number had shot up to 64, with more than half in the first year. By way of explanation, they were told that it is difficult to say "no" to the offspring of a minister or an ambassador.

Mary Follain

French v Flemish rift reopened by RE controversy

BELGIUM

A row has erupted over whether children should be allowed to withdraw from compulsory courses in religion or ethics without losing their right to school diplomas.

The dispute has caused consternation in the educational system, and has highlighted yet again the antipathy between the French and Flemish-speaking populations.

Belgian law stipulates that state school pupils must take a "philosophical" course in either religion or lay ethics, and if they do not pass this exam they will fail their end-of-year examinations and eventually leave without a school diploma.

But since September, following a circular from Daniel Coens, minister of education for the Flemish sector, children in Flemish-speaking schools have been allowed exemption from both courses if their parents object to the content on moral grounds. And now the *Commission d'homologation*, which records academic qualifications, has come into line by announcing that exempted children will still be eligible for school leaving certificates. Meanwhile, the French-speaking minister of education has not recognized Mr Coens' judgment.

The issue arose from an appeal to the state council by a parent whose daughter had been granted ministerial exemption from both courses because of his moral objections, but was some years later refused her school leaving certificate.

The state council upheld the father's appeal last year, ruling that the ethics course was "not neutral", and therefore did not comply with the law. The daughter, Saskia Suijs, obtained her diploma and hundreds of Flemish-speaking parents have since demanded, and got, similar dispensation.

Many French-speaking parents, particularly those who are Jehovah's Witnesses, also want to withdraw their children from the course. But in September, André Bortolotto, then Mr Coens' counterpart for the Francophone population, issued a circular confirming that "the choice between a course of ethics and one of religion remains obligatory." He was not concerned with the Suijs judgment, he said, which was based on the ethics course in Flanders.

The new French-speaking education minister, André Damsiaux, has so far left the position unchanged, but officials in his ministry are uneasy about the situation, which has, in effect, produced a different interpretation of the law in the two linguistic halves of the country.

John Marshall

No smoke without protests

AUSTRIA

Smoking rooms for pupils were set up in many Austrian grammar schools 10 years ago to get pupils who smoke out of the school toilets. But public opinion is turning against the idea.

Originally, it seemed a good way to deal with those pupils who would retreat to the lavatories to light up during lesson breaks. The smoking rooms also kept them segregated from other pupils.

Austrian youngsters are allowed by law to smoke in public from the age of 16, but whether smoking is allowed at individual secondary schools is decided by their "school-community council", a body consisting of the head and parents, teachers and pupils.

The wisdom of the "smoking room" arrangements has always been contested and two recent events have threatened the uneasy status quo.

The first was a Ministry of Education survey which showed that almost one-third of the 15-16 age group are regular smokers. The second was the appointment of Herr Franz Kreitzer, a self-declared "militant non-smoker", as the new Austrian Minister of Health.

Mr Kreitzer had made a plea to the powerful Austrian tobacco state monopoly to refrain from aggressive advertising and sent a brochure to school-community councils informing them that smoking reduces physical and scholastic performance.

Karl Heinz Gruber

Girls in poison coffee plot

When Bradley Manor, assistant principal of Battle Creek junior high in St Paul, Minnesota, drank some coffee last week, he felt a burning sensation and instantly spit it out.

It was just as well - the coffee contained a potentially lethal dose of iodine writes Bill Norris.

The attempted poisoning was carried out by three 14-year-old girls

called to Manor's office after being caught smoking.

One of the girls was quoted as saying: "I liked the idea of killing."

Two of them have admitted second degree assault and are being held at a temporary shelter. The third denies the charge and is detained in a juvenile detention centre.

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Radical solutions, not cash bribe, needed to cure physics' ills

Sir - Dr Manuel is right to point out (TES, February 21) the apparent conflict between the DES bursary scheme to attract physics and mathematics graduates into teaching and the encouragement given in the DES policy statement to the provision of courses of integrated or combined secondary education. However, we hope no one will take too seriously her comment that any graduate following a course of initial training in the sciences could claim to be eligible for the special payment of £1,200.

Physicists, or for that matter chemists and biologists, are unlikely to be attracted to a profession which devalues even further the subject to which they have devoted at least three years of study at undergraduate level. Moreover, they are unlikely to accept a level of PGCE programmes which claim to train them in 36 weeks to teach integrated or combined science courses which draw upon disciplines, some of which they will not have studied at a level appropriate to higher education or even at A or O level.

However, even if such scepticism can be overcome and commitment to one's discipline set aside, allegedly in

the interest of the pupils, only the financially naïve are likely to be tempted by the DES offer, assuming, of course, that the Government can actually make up its mind about the rules.

The reality is that the DES is seeking to bribe more and better physics teachers into schools to spend their time teaching topics they know little or nothing about, in which they may have little or no interest, and at a time when the demands upon the profession are increasing, the resources available to it are diminishing and morale is at an all-time low.

The shortage of competent well-qualified teachers of the sciences and mathematics for the schools is an enduring and deepening crisis which threatens the scientific education of tens of thousands of pupils and makes a nonsense of the Government's plans for an expansion of the scientific, engineering and mathematical disciplines in higher education.

The crisis will not be solved by a belated and inadequate bribe and more substantial and probably radical solutions need to be considered as a matter of urgency.

BRYAN CHAPMAN
and E W JENKINS
Centre for Studies in
Science and Mathematics
University of Leeds

Few technicians

Sir - As a physics teacher I read with great concern the article "Secondary Law of Movement" (TES, February 21). Pupils are continually exhorted not to give up this important, basic subject, up to O level at least, because so many career opportunities are closed to them if they do.

The problem, however, lies not only in the lack of specialist physics teachers, but also in the lack of specialist physics technicians, which imposes an additional burden in schools, especially in maintenance of continually-used equipment. Despite this, in some schools the pupils' enthusiasm for physics is undiminished.

BRIAN DUFFY
13 Whitehall Court
Galemore Avenue
Gosport
Hants

What shortage?

Sir - Shortage of physics teachers? Swanscombe school unable to recruit? Funny that, because two weeks ago I wrote to Kent education authority in Maidstone stating that I am a physics teacher with a loyal experience who wanted to move to Kent (about six miles from Swanscombe in fact).

The authority replied that they had few vacancies, and that any jobs that did come up would likely be filled by staff already working for the county. Not only is there a shortage of physics teachers but it seems that the authorities don't want to employ those who are available. No wonder Swanscombe has not been able to get a physics teacher.

BRIAN SEVE
163 Whitebeam Tower
Hillingdon
London B17

Cast-a-drift

Sir - If someone from Longleaves School could forward their school address to me, I would be happy to return a map and other equipment which I found in a snow drift in the Black Mountains a few weeks ago.

ROBERT O EDWARDS
13 Westfield Road
Long Wittenham
Nr. Abingdon
Oxon OX14 4RF

Shared concern

Sir - Your correspondents (Letters, February 28) attribute to me gratuitous opinions which are difficult to infer from my article on "The Female Profession" (TES, February 14). A more dispassionate reading of what I wrote would, I hope, indicate that I share many of the concerns expressed by your correspondents.

My aim was to chart, with the aid of available statistics (which are fact), changes in the pattern of recruitment to teaching and indicate some consequential issues worthy of consideration. Your correspondents wish to widen the discussion and I would like to respond to some points they raise.

McKinnon concludes by asking if I would dare write about "blacks" as I write about women. Well - yes, I would treat blacks, women and men in a similar manner. Members of minority groups are under-represented in the teaching profession and there are strong arguments for claiming that schools should be staffed by teachers more fully representative of the social mix in the wider society.

By the same token, I would have thought that children should be taught by teachers more representative of both men and women. For instance, one-third of the male teachers in junior schools are heads. Hence, a common experience for children will be to spend their formative years learning in institutions staffed by women and run by men.

It is the covert impact of such experiences which may, in part, be responsible for the mistaken notion that teaching is "women's work". I would prefer to see more men in



Many children spend early years in schools staffed by women but run by men

primary schools sharing posts of responsibility with women.

I would agree with Denise Savage about the qualities and experience married women returners bring to the school. But I hope that she would agree with me that since this group now provides a major source of recruitment into the profession that the DES ought to be castigated for not providing a massive retraining programme for them. I would further hope that she would agree that returners should not be employed on terms which are less secure than those of established teachers and that they should not be treated as a pool of reserve labour. (I note from the latest DES statistics, that there was a further increase in the number of full-time teachers in occasional service last year from 9,892 to 10,609).

DAVID McNAMARA
University of Lancaster
Department of Educational Research

Good practice

Sir - This is a letter I had not intended writing, at least until my study was over, but it seemed timely with the opinion of Patricia Rowan (TES, February 14).

I am a Canadian teacher of the mentally and physically handicapped, and have been in Britain since July on a one-year sabbatical. I am looking specifically into the curricula in special schools and the integration of the handicapped into the mainstream.

I have visited 40 schools, three universities and various special facilities such as the Handicapped Persons Research Unit at Newcastle. By the time I finish my study, I will have visited a cross-section of schools, both special and mainstream, from Oxfordshire to Tayside.

The one thing that has impressed me more than anything is the high quality of education, care and support from my British teaching colleagues - all the more remarkable in a society that as a whole gives teachers neither esteem nor financial reward, instead blaming them for every fault of modern society.

Ma Rowan has said that far too little respect when she says that far too little has been said about authority-wide policies. The many excellent projects and schemes I have seen have come from hard-working, conscientious, believing heads and staff, not from any centralized policy of the individual, i.e. as or indeed an antagonistic, and ill-mannered education minister. My impression from visiting schools is that the attitude here in both special and mainstream schools is virtually all that is keeping the ship afloat. Overworked, under-paid, under-informed, beleaguered teachers who work in poorly resourced conditions do not strike me as having a lack of faith. Granted, I have run into those who question integration - mostly in special schools - but that's on a purely professional level. In the meantime they're hard at work trying to prove themselves wrong.

There are classrooms with support; time-out groups and specialist help. As someone who spends 25 to 60 per cent of his time in a unit and at one of the beneficiaries of looking at special education in another country, I would not suggest Mark Vaughan, Ann Shearer and Ma Rowan stay home.

Rather, I would suggest they give credit where it's due and look around at many examples of good practice and tremendous attitudes here.

M JACK BENT
Sunside Cottage
Red Lake
Malabar
North York

Vital shortages

Sir - It is not just the special schools that are short of therapists (Letters, January 24). There is a shortfall in enormous that the achievement of a national system of provision for all need requires something more than just the implementation of pay awards (necessary and desirable as these may be); it needs a fundamental reorganisation of the whole field.

Ritual mentions of speech therapists etc in statements under the Education Act may result for many children in no more than token provision.

The response of HMI to Mr Mack's inquiry seems therefore a little unimpressive. Surely, if educationalists feel the need to state a need for therapeutic provision, then the educational system is entitled (perhaps obliged) to know how far such needs are ever met, or even metable.

And particularly to demand speech therapy as "clearly of a most urgent nature" is an odd position, as it is an arbitrary matter that speech therapists should be referred to rather than the L.S.A.s and they are regarded as the reasonably educational in many local government countries.

I cannot presume to answer Mr Mack's first question, on the role of HMI. But to whom should concerned parents turn for the services that their children need? Why not to the education system?

At the very least, this might require the question of the proper place of "paediatric" speech therapists who, since the bulk of their work is pedagogic and developmental rather than therapeutic, might more properly be incorporated into education.

Or more fundamentally, it might direct attention to the question of much of the work currently taken by therapists might be equally well done by teachers. There is already a certain blurring of roles in the field of language disorders, with conductive education giving speech therapists, not therapists, a new status for the habilitation of the severely disabled.

In such instances, scarce therapists would be freed for those tasks in which they can uniquely do so. NHS, to whom should concerned parents turn for the services that their children need? Why not to the education system?

M J BLACKBAND
Co-ordinator of Special Needs
Thomas House School
Walsley

Vocational needs are misunderstood

Sir - I write in connection with the report "Push to offer vocational courses at O and A level" (TES, February 21). The response of the examining boards to the need to provide a vocational education reflects a serious and continuing misunderstanding of the likely nature of vocational education and of appropriate ways of assessing students' achievements in a vocational curriculum.

The essence of a vocational education does not lie in the subject of knowledge content of the curriculum, but in the range of skills being developed by students. It is this emphasis on skills that generates a vocational aspect in the curriculum.

People in work, or employment, typically use a whole range of general and specific skills and develop know-

ledge associated with the application of those skills and the attitudes that enable them to function effectively in the workplace. These general skills associated with work are capable of being developed through the medium of any subject - whether or not they are in fact developed very much depends on the willingness and ability of teachers to allow their students to use these skills. It has little to do with the actual subject and much to do with the teaching style adopted.

Thus, a CDT teacher who lectures his students, dictates notes, intervenes heavily to prevent mistakes being made in practical sessions, and emphasises theory, the exclusion of its application is not doing much to develop vocational skills. Conversely, a

as often as not wrong - there were certainly black teachers working in Handsworth schools more than seven years ago, although the report says there weren't.

Most disturbing, though, is the use of generalized anonymous quotation from witnesses, sometimes spuriously authorized and legitimized, as in the statement of a "black professional" who stated that a school in Handsworth with a 90 per cent black intake "has failed Afro-Caribbeans and now Asians". Here, given that most, if not all, Handsworth schools - with the exception of the grammar schools - would fit the bill, it would surely have been professional to name the school.

Also, why are we not told which school has "never produced one black child with five O levels"? Who are the teachers who call their pupils "niggers"? And which is the headteacher who told a parent that the racial abuse of her son was "not a problem"?

Undoubtedly, racism does exist in education as in other institutions, but the blanket condemnation of Handsworth teachers that is effectively made by the report is singularly unhelpful. Most of those who teach in Handsworth's schools have chosen to do so, and many have remained over many years in profound and dedicated commitment to the young of the community.

P C GRIERSON
NUT representative
Holyhead School
Florence Road
Handsworth
Birmingham

Confused logic

Sir - It is a pity that Fred Naylor, "a prominent member of the National Council for Educational Standards" fails to apply to his own judgements the high standards he presumably demands of others.

In his article What Kind of Religion? (TES, February 21) he can have no conceivable justification for his statement that I have "no time for any questionably educational in many local government countries."

I would claim that my professional life, both in my teaching and writings on the subject of religious education, provides ample evidence of a deep concern for "values in schooling" in relation both to children's moral education and to the principles of religious education.

The problem is that Mr Naylor assumes that a set of values, in some respect at least very different from his own are, in fact, no values at all. Thus he repeats the baseless myth that the moral attitudes of those who do not subscribe to a particular conservative moral view of life are contemptuous of moral values *per se*.

This intolerance seems to me to be at the root of the conservative/evangelical case against the movement in religious education towards a non-dogmatic, non-therapist, non-hierarchical and truly objective approach to religious education. He and his supporters just will not accept that presenting to children a more or less favourable view of the Christian interpretation of life, and encouraging them to presume that it has better claims to truth than any others, is immoral because it disregards the obviously controversial nature of its claim.

The constant appeal made by conservatives to the religious education committee to consider the whole issue of assemblies and to advise the education committee. They recognized, as surely we must all do, that the strict application of the 1944 Act in many schools might honour the letter of the law but offend its spirit.

After lengthy consideration, SACRE acknowledged the problems

clauses of the 1944 Act simply points to the weakness of their case. What they say is "RE must be practised as we say because that is the law of the land". Thus, they are telling us that the arbiter of what is right and good and best in education today is the requirements laid upon schools 42 years ago.

I cannot imagine that there are many involved in religious education who are disposed to confer that kind of moral infallibility on an anachronistic Act of Parliament.

I have to say that underneath the confused logic of Mr Naylor's article is a crude attempt to impose a personal view upon everybody else. I doubt very much if his fellow Wilshire councillors will fall for such a disingenuous exercise.

PAUL TONKIN
43 High Street
Stoke-sub-Hamdon
Somerset

RE valued

Sir - Your report (TES, February 28) on a debate in the Wilshire County Council on the daily act of worship in schools suggests that Wilshire has voted to defy the 1944 Education Act and to display a quite ridiculous attitude. That could not be further from the truth.

Following the motion proposed by Mr Naylor, we asked the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education to consider the whole issue of assemblies and to advise the education committee. They recognized, as surely we must all do, that the strict application of the 1944 Act in many schools might honour the letter of the law but offend its spirit.

After lengthy consideration, SACRE acknowledged the problems

history teacher who encourages his/her students to do their own research, to weigh alternative solutions to historical problems, who probes and questions opinions and encourages his/her students to do likewise is indeed encouraging the development of a wide range of vocational skills.

It is this range of skills - broadly number, communication, problem-solving, and practical process skills - that examining boards should be seeking ways of accrediting, not "business studies", "engineering", or any other pseudo-vocational "subject". Students will gain the knowledge associated with particular occupations soon enough when they start work.

There is little virtue in teaching

Sense of history

Sir - Recent correspondence in your columns has challenged the view that introducing the Schools Council History Project increases pupils' interest and raises the A level uptake. My experience in two large comprehensive schools indicates that it does just that!

I do not agree with Diana Dover (TES, February 21) that the success of the project should be primarily judged by the numbers taking up A level since of the 76 per cent of fourth and fifth-year pupils following the course in my present comprehensive this is an option open to only an able minority.

However, I can tell her that of our first cohort of SCHP pupils, 37 opted for A level as opposed to 16, and 14 from our last two years of Social and Economic History. With no staff changes, an ever widening choice of A levels on offer and the scientific and vocational climate, this rise is far from negligible.

I asked one lower-sixth group today why they chose A level history and they replied that they had been motivated by the project. Interestingly, they highlighted different features which had appealed to them. Some had enjoyed the modular nature of the course; doing more than just modern history had attracted others; the relevance to their own lives of the modern world study cropped up, as did the concept of seeing a development through time. The field trips, and most significantly the variety of teaching approaches which were made possible by taking a course which did not require continuous factual learning,

specific job skills in schools when those skills are as likely as not to be obsolete by the time students start work. Let schools and colleges concentrate on developing intellectual curiosity and the skills to put that curiosity into practice and let examining boards turn their energies to assessing that, rather than recall, and we shall be doing everyone a favour - not least the students who appear to be at risk of having a sterile, narrow vocationalism thrust upon them, which will be not much different from the sterile, narrow academicalism they so often suffer at the moment.

ROY E BOFFY
Principal Lecturer
The Polytechnic
Wolverhampton

had also attracted our students. Diana Dover also speaks of a "good" history department as one which is "well thought of" and has a "good track record in public examinations". Our department, prior to the introduction of Schools Council History, met this criteria perfectly but it didn't mean that we should be necessarily satisfied with the history education we provided. The examination constraints of the "five essay thrash" at GCE and the "tick for fact" at CSE emasculated most of our efforts at providing interesting and varied approaches to historical learning.

Schools Council History liberated us from those strictures and I am pleased to see that in many areas GCSE history will do this for other courses.

CHRIS HINTON
Head of history
Beacon School
Crowborough, East Sussex



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17 Lavender Grove
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JOHN WILSON

Instead of the present polarization into educational camps, parents could choose from a spectrum of different sorts of schools on educational rather than social or financial grounds. This would be a great gain socially as well as educationally.



The observance of certain minimum standards can easily be enforced by inspection; in practice, parental concern would itself ensure this in most cases.

John Wilson is a tutor in the Department of Educational Studies, Oxford University.

John Wilson is a tutor in the Department of Educational Studies, Oxford University.

PETER CUNNINGHAM

The wide range of skills required, as well as a subject specialism, are outlined. Ideals of parental involvement and of liaison between school, home and community are frequently mentioned.

The 1944 Act was still fresh on the statute book when the recruiting pamphlet *Teaching as a Career* came out first published 1945 and a revised edition, referred to here, in 1948). It is a plain and formal looking document, printed to war economy standards on rough paper with narrow

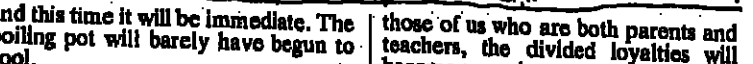
My Teacher. Teaching in primary schools. CoI for DES, 1984; Teaching as a career. Ministry of Education, 1945, revised 1948.

Peter Cunningham is a tutor at Westminster College, Oxford

Peter Cunningham is a tutor at Westminster College, Oxford.

MICHAEL J SMITH

As negotiations for the 1986 claim begin, parents will follow them more closely than ever before. Whatever the rights or wrongs of the matter, any suggestion of more industrial action will be greeted by angry frustration,



Each will be ranged on opposing sides, each further divided into smaller factions. Even the A in PTA will become a misnomer.

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HILARY MORIARTY

Someone halted the proceedings to say that if it was a two-year course, it began perforce in September; if it was in fact a one-year course, with every one considering work only from the fifth year, then we could all relax a bit because there were 18 months between us and lift off.

Crushed by school routine, O-levels, and growing up, Sarah wrote letters to her English teacher. Angel Scott reviews the letters, and the results.

At her own and her family's request, Sarah was transferred to a new comprehensive school,

them to leave me alone. Once I could laugh them off, but after a couple of years they seem to have

bound up with the quality of teacher-learner relationships, and vice versa: neither can be

Angel Scott is editor of the newsletter of the National Association for the Teaching of English

Sarah's Letters: A case of shyness. Bedford Way Papers 26, London University Institute of Education. Price £2.95 from bookshops, £3.50 by post from Turnaround Distribution, 27 Horsell Road, London N5 1XL.

Angel Scout is editor of the newsletter of the National Association for the Teaching of English

Report from a go-between

Trying to link home and school on a South London estate wasn't as easy as it sounded. Sarah Farley describes what happened.

It is difficult to wear two hats simultaneously, as Lil Bickley discovered in 1975 when she took up her newly-created post of school community worker. Should she behave as the schools expected her to, ironing out the problems teachers encountered in their meetings (or non-meetings) with parents? Or should she be championing the cause of the parents in their struggle to achieve greater involvement in their children's education?

Presumably the South London Family Service Unit, which appointed Lil, hoped that the two roles would be complementary rather than conflicting. But a report, commissioned by the FSU, finds "it is clear that while the school may be successfully used as a base for developing community work... the idea of school community work is a contradiction".

This conclusion may be depressing for people currently trying to establish links between schools and communities. Or they may disagree and say that in their experience home-school liaison can and does work. Other projects may not be faced with the same complexities as the FSU one, where the community concerned was described as "particularly disadvantaged".

The inhabitants of the estate, many of whom were from ethnic minorities, lived in poor housing and were on low incomes. Lil Bickley, herself an Afro-Caribbean, was conscious of racial tensions.

The report asserts: "The gap between teachers and parents from ethnic minorities is due to a widespread ignorance - which goes far beyond teachers to a wider white society - of the history, culture and conditions of minorities in society."

"Many unspoken assumptions govern white attitudes and behaviour which, taken together, tend to see black people as 'having a problem'. The essential force of the 'racism' argument is to turn these assumptions on their head and to ask whether the problem does not lie with white people."

Why should Family Service Units, a voluntary social work agency geared to the needs of disadvantaged families, be concerned with such a sticky situation? In the early 1970s, the FSU was looking for ways of developing community work which "placed the family in a wider context."

Freda Hudson, then the organizer for the South London unit, working in the boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark, was keen to try to bridge the gaps between families and schools. She thought that someone combining experience in education, social work training, and community work, operating independently from the school, would have the most impact.

There were three schools on the project patch: a church school of 200 pupils, and an infants' school and a junior school, each with about 170 children. The last two shared buildings but had separate headteachers. Funding was arranged, via the Inner London Education Authority, from the Urban Aid Programme.

There was no requirement for the FSU to present any sort of written evaluation of the project, and it is to the organization's credit that it commissioned Claudine McCreadie to write a "critical appraisal".

Lil Bickley started her job with optimism and enthusiasm, supported by a qualification from the youth and community work course at Goldsmith's College, and the experience of close involvement with the evolution of her own children's primary school into a community school.

But one of her hats soon became more comfortable to wear than the other. During her first year, she succeeded in winning the confidence and interest of many local people, and to some extent persuaded them to join such projects as a mothers' club and a neighbourhood Valentine's Day party. She became accepted as someone who was impartial but understanding, someone who could lead the way through bureaucracy, but did not represent authority.

The school worker but kept slipping off. The church school connection fizzled out to the extent that Lil eventually confined her contact to letting the parents know of activities such as a summer play scheme. According to Lil, the head "made it quite clear that she does not feel that her school is

one with problems or difficulties." This hiccup appears to have been caused by lack of consultation with the schools, which were selected by the ILA.

The two remaining schools were more receptive to Lil's involvement, the infants' school particularly so. By the spring of 1977, Lil felt there was "a positive feeling about the school on the estate". The schools also seemed pleased with the improved relationships they had with parents.

In addition to her resourceful efforts in the community work sphere, Lil was keen to build on her qualified success in acquainting parents and teachers by persuading them to take a step further.

She suggested they progress from bringing parents into the school for community reasons to having them participate in classroom activities, such as reading stories, contributing to geography lessons, and taking part in music sessions - involvement such as Lil had encountered in her own children's school. The parents were persuaded; the teachers were not.

"There was a lack of respect for the parents," Lil says in the report, "even about the most competent member of the mothers' club. They (the teachers) regarded the parents as illiterate, suffering from the environment. Their attitude was patronizing."

She felt the resistance to parents in general was compounded by an ignorance about black parents in particular. "We are not talking about any school. We are talking about a school with 70 per cent black children. The teachers were committed to their job, but I couldn't believe the level of consciousness about what that commitment entailed in a multiracial society."

The estate and schools are anonymous in the report so it is not possible to ask the teachers their reasons for rejecting Lil's proposals. Claudine McCreadie makes no bones about regarding the project from the community worker's perspective. She says: "There is a bias of interpretation in the report."

Despite opposition and a lessening of contact with the schools, Lil persisted in trying to develop greater understanding of parents, especially blacks, by teachers. She organized a multicultural social evening in the school, with entertainment and refreshments provided by parents to demonstrate the cultures of the Caribbean, Sri Lanka, Portugal, Morocco, India, Chile, Nigeria, Turkey and Britain.

The general impression, says the report, was that it had been a very successful evening. It continues: "However, the occasion highlights the gap between some of the teachers and the parents whose children they teach... some of the junior school teachers recollected the 'grab for food', the 'children going barmy', the number of 'strangers' and the 'lack of consideration for others'."

Lil Bickley left the project, with misgivings, in December 1981. She had been partially successful in that she was leaving behind a community containing people more able to fend for themselves. But it had been a difficult job, calling on all her reserves of professionalism and personality.

"I learnt to cope and 'toughened up' but I could sometimes leave with the sides of my head throbbing from the demanding and possessive nature of people," she said. The school worker aspect of the job never really got going in the way she wanted it to, although the schools were pleased with her liaison work.

The FSU still fields a community worker in the area but the links with schools are not very active. Further funding for the project is at a critical stage. If there remains an intention to develop home-school links, the planners might do well to consider the objections reached by Claudine McCreadie, remembering, of course, her "bias of interpretation".

Home-School Liaison: Report of an Experimental Project in Community Work by Claudine McCreadie. Available from Jenny Browne, FSU National Office, 207 Old Marylebone Road, London NW1 5GP, telephone 01-402 5175. Price £3.



I love Allah I love Islamia

After a decision last week, Brent Council will almost certainly recommend that the Islamia primary school is given voluntary aided status. Angela Neustatter visited it.

A small boy walks to the blackboard and rings a decorative hieroglyphic with chalk. Then a little girl, enveloped in loose clothes, just her face visible inside a headscarf veil, takes the chalk and, with beautiful precision, draws an elaborate Arabic letter.

In the adjoining classroom a group of children is gathered around their teacher reciting, in spirited, competitive voices, quotations from the Koran. As the headmaster comes in they pause and greet him in Arabic, the words meaning "Peace be with you", before resuming their quotations.

It is morning at the Islamia primary school in Brent, a school set up in 1982 to provide an Islamic education for the children of some of the north London borough's 15-20,000 Muslims.

Last week Brent Council's Education Committee decided to recommend that voluntary aided status should be conferred on the school, the first Islamic school in the country to seek this kind of help. It is a decision which the headteacher, Dr Azam Baig, talks of in his quiet way as a breakthrough (the full council is now expected to approve the change of status, and the final decision will then be taken by Sir Keith Joseph). The school currently takes 85 children and has a waiting list of 200. The aid, which means the council will cover most of the school's running costs, so far funded by private donations, will enable the school to expand. Already, permission for a new block of classrooms has been granted. It has been estimated that the costs could reach £250,000 a year, and considerably more if the school achieves its aim of 500 pupils.

The school grew out of the despair which former pop singer Cat Stevens, a Muslim convert now calling himself Yusuf Islam, and a group of other Brent Muslim parents felt because there was no school suitable for their children. Yusuf pinpointed the birth of his daughter at the time when he began to consider the significance of education and to realize that local schools would not give his children the religious teaching and the strict code of behaviour many Muslims believe are essential from the earliest days.

So he and other parents founded a nursery school which grew into the primary school. It will now educate children until the age of 11 with the aim of preparing them for the Common Entrance



Dr Baig (above), "creating a way of behaving." Three quarters of the time is spent on normal primary subjects (top), sometimes with an Islamic bias.

Examination.

Dr Baig explains that the school's concerns are two-fold. "We want to educate the children with a thorough understanding of the Islamic faith and its importance, and to this end we use part of every day to teach Islamic studies. But we are also concerned with creating an atmosphere, a way of behaving which is in line with the restraint, respect for elders, the obedience which is something Muslims believe to be very important."

Fifteen per cent of the curriculum, every day, is devoted to religious studies which take place at the beginning of each morning and are compulsory. And there is an Islamic priest, an imam, in the school to provide special information and

guidance. The Koran is read to the children and they are expected to memorize certain passages. It is also used as a resource for teaching reading in Arabic.

This part of the religious studies time is fairly formal, and the children are expected to sit at their desks and apply themselves. They will also often be given homework on the subject.

But other areas of Islamic study are less formal. Dr Baig described the class he had just taken which was concerned with the prophets and their acts of goodness. During the lesson the children had been asked to act out stories of the prophets. At other times, the tales will be related in the way that a fairy story might be told, with children listening and asking questions.

Although the Islamic faith is strict and doctrinaire and children are expected to accept it without fundamental challenge, they are encouraged to ask questions which, Dr Baig explains "will help them to reach God, to understand how we believe". So, while he might not welcome questions about how God can permit the kind of torture and killing which has been reported from Iran, he is happy if the children ask "How do I know God is there?" to point to flowers growing and answer "See how that plant grows, independently of you and me, somebody must be responsible for that".

Learning about the way a good Muslim conducts him or herself in life is incorporated into this early morning teaching. This includes learning how to pray, which they do twice a day and will be expected to do five times when they reach puberty. They are taught about the Ramadan fast, which lasts from dawn until dusk every day for a month. Primary-age children do not fast but, explains Dr Baig, they are being prepared psychologically for the time when they are old enough. They are also told that they should strive to go on at least one pilgrimage to Mecca.

They have Arabic lessons every day. It is the only foreign language taught in the school which has children from a wide range of Muslim countries with different languages. Arabic is taught in English and children are expected to emerge from school fluent enough to read at least parts of the Koran.

They are handicapped in this curriculum area by lack of resource material and the fact that their books are very basic. Dr Baig, who taught in state schools before coming to Islamia, says they are hoping to produce their own materials in future.

Religious studies and Arabic apart, the curriculum is much as would be found in most primary schools. On the timetable hanging above Dr Baig's head are listed: English, maths, social studies, elementary science, nature study, geography, art and crafts, physical education and swimming.

Dr Baig, however, explains that in subjects such as history and geography an "Islamic bias" might be brought in - events of particular interest to Muslims would be bound in among the Tudors and the Stuarts, for example, in a history class.

A visit to the classrooms where art work is displayed shows a display of Arabic figures carefully drawn and coloured in, while one child had drawn something resembling an altar with a message to God. Downstairs, badges the children had been making all bore slogans such as: "I love Allah", "I love Islamia". Friday afternoons are often spent on an outing to the mosque.

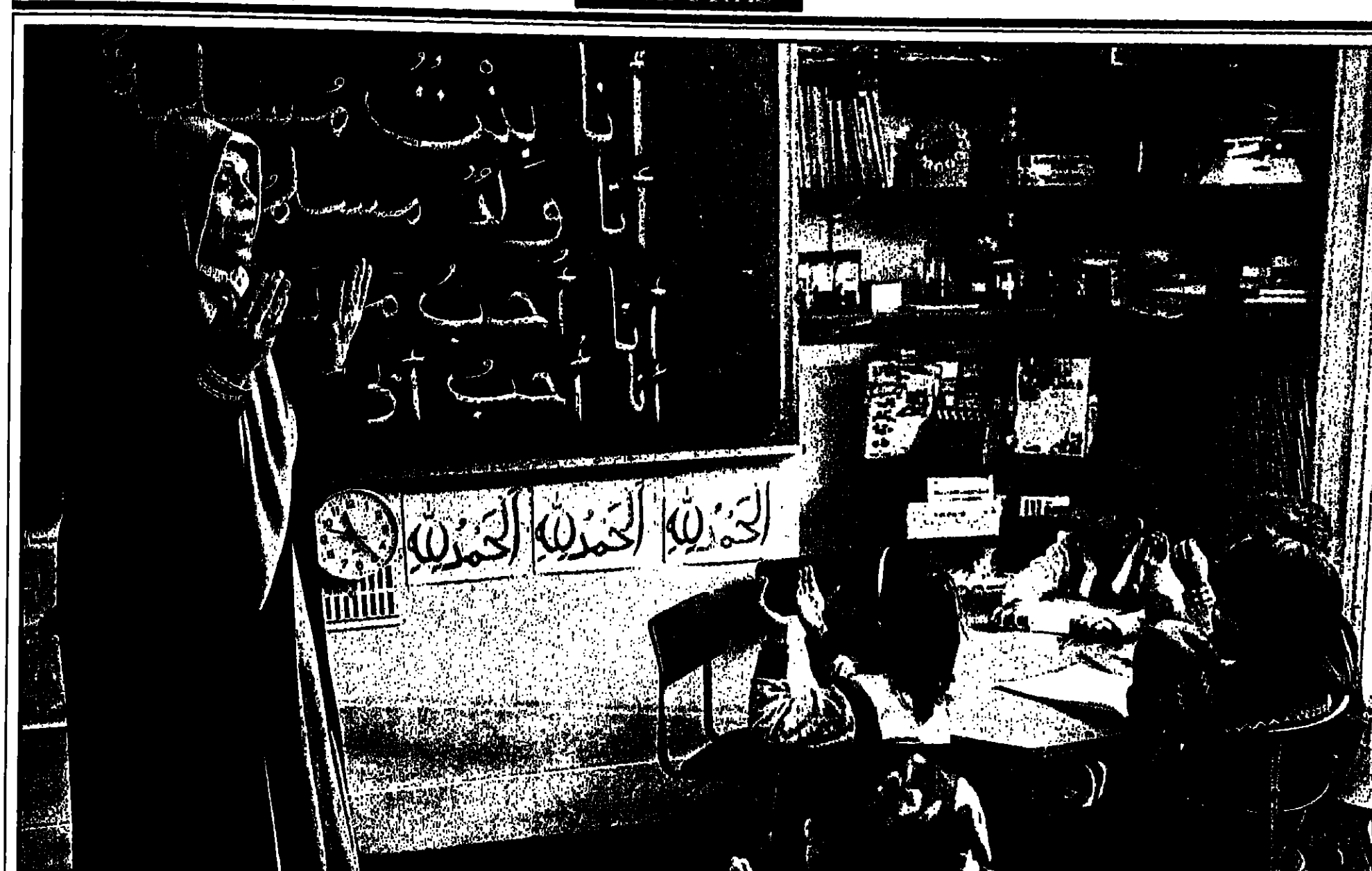
At this early stage the boys and girls mix freely. As a bright burst of sunshine lights up the playground, the children run out together and enjoy a hectic game of tag with one of the women teachers clad from head to toe in several layers of clothing. Dr Baig explains: "At this stage it is not necessary to segregate them except for swimming. But once they reach puberty and secondary level then they would certainly be separated."

Most teachers at Islamia are Muslim and all have DES qualifications. Being Muslim is not a prerequisite of being selected but Dr Baig admits they prefer it "because we want the children to grow up understanding the way Muslims behave, the strict code of respect for elders, of caring for those less fortunate, of personal hygiene, which are all so important. Obviously a Muslim teacher will live this way by choice and the children learn from example."

If Islamia is given voluntary aided status, it seems likely that other private Muslim schools will apply. But would it be less divisive for Muslim children to go to state schools where, as has happened in Bradford, the schools made concessions to Muslims? For example, in the Yorkshire schools halal meat is served, boys and girls are segregated for PE and swimming, girls are allowed to wear trousers to school and all-covering track-suits for PE, while at lunchtime rooms are set aside for prayers and a new religious education syllabus has been brought in that covers all the major religions.

Dr Baig agrees that schools "meeting these requirements" would certainly be considerably better for Muslims than what they can usually find. But he says: "The children are still not getting the study of Islamic matters which we consider vital. Nor are they being taught the kind of behaviour we want. Children come here from state schools using unacceptable language and treating each other in ways we cannot tolerate."

"The parents who have chosen to send their children here have done so because the school has an Islamic atmosphere, and that is how they want their children to grow up. It is not something the ordinary schools can provide."



Arabic for five year olds: "I am a Muslim boy. I am a Muslim girl. I love my school. I love my Daddy." The school aims to teach respect for elders, and restraint.





America's shame

Brian Morton on the slow genocide of the Indians

Indian Country. By Peter Matthiessen.
Collins Harvill £12.95. 0 00 217345 X.

Among the ancient prophecies of the Hopi Indians of Western America is the belief that sometime in the future and in a time of peril there would come to their aid strangers with white skin and long hair, in extravagant clothes, and with a name like their own. These strangers would share the Hopi respect for the earth, their dream, dance and ritual.

The hippies of the Sixties struck a temporary alliance with the most traduced and preterite of America's minorities. Behind the whooping, satirical caricatures of American culture from Fenimore Cooper to *Ukama's Raid*, they found a people who shared their rejection of "civilized" values. In the process, they overturned one etymological myth. America's indigenous population had not been confused with that of the Eastern treasure house, India. They were not implicated even by name in mercantilism and its offshoots. They were named for what they had at first seemed, a people in God, in *Dios*, "Indios". Their "christening" took a later, ironic turn.

Needless to say, the alliance rapidly deteriorated into a fashion, fringed jackets, beads and headbands, peyote and psilocybin. Once, as tragedy, twice, as farce. The Indians had been subdued with trinkets and whisky; Sixties radicalism subdued itself with the Indians' hallucinogens.

For Better, For Worse: British Marriages, 1600 to the Present. By John R. Gillis.
Oxford University Press £19.50. 0 19 503614 X.

In the mid-19th century a metropolitan medical officer informed a Parliamentary Select Committee that "illegitimate children" of the poorer classes are almost always killed, either intentionally or unintentionally. "That the children were abandoned was due to the consuming puritanism of the Victorian era." And this was indeed a dramatic reversal of the accommodating customs of previous centuries when fathers proudly owned their bastards and engaged couples often married only after pregnancy had been achieved. It was the fiancée's way of making sure that his lady was fertile.

In his widely researched study of British marriage habits over four centuries, Professor Gillis (who is Professor of History at Rutgers University) concentrates mainly on the courtship and nuptial procedures of the working classes and the emerging lower middle class. The first chapter is the least inviting which is a pity since this uneven book is a massive compilation of fascinating information. He quotes, from an impressive range of sources, evocatively about life real people rather than case histories. For instance: "I couldn't get on without my mother. I could get on without my husband, I don't notice him." (18th-

and a debased version of their philosophy.

Peter Matthiessen rose to prominence in the Sixties with a series of books that precisely matched the ideas and tastes of the times. *At Play in the Fields of the Lord*, his fourth novel, written in 1965, dramatized the conflict of the hyper-rational, christianizing West and the holistic, intuitive culture of the Indians, this time of the Amazon basin. The book seems dated now only because its context has been soured. Matthiessen has never for a moment compromised his belief that all life and all expressions of it are precious. There has never been anything soft-boiled or abstract in his thinking. His most recent, and best, novel, *Far Tortuga*, is a remarkable account of real. Matthiessen has worked world-wide on projects to save animals, habitats and peoples. His best-known work is, perhaps, the documentary film about the Great White Shark, *Blue Water, White Death* which levels the very telling point that "dangerous" species are only so when interfered with in their domain.

The malevolent image of the Red Indian comes solely from a definition grounded in extremes. Like sharks, their hostility is not innate; their adaptation to conditions is. The important point to register about *Indian Country* - and its immediate predecessors *The Snow Leopard*, about the Himalayas, and *The Tree Where Man Was Born*, about East Africa - is its distance from either comfortably angry detachment or vague

mythologising. The book is a precise and detailed account of what is (to editorialize far more than Matthiessen does) the greatest single shame of American history.

The history of the whites' interaction with the Indians is a litter of torn-up treaties and broken promises. The Indians, on the assumption that they could not read anyway, were forced to sign away land-rights they were unaware they had; as Matthiessen points out, land-ownership makes no sense in their philosophy. Huddled onto reservations, always the poorest land available, they were obliged to watch their sacred places turned into strip mines, power stations, uranium plants; their water dried up; the wildlife with which they had lived in harmony disappeared. Cynically and quite openly, their new masters stayed their hands just short of genocidal "termination" in order to preserve a cheap and (despite the stereotype) essentially passive workforce who, since they themselves didn't seek the protection of citizenship, lay outside all usual guarantees of health and safety.

By 1966, Four Corners, the most sacred place in the Hopi universe, at the modern intersection of Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, was releasing a smoke plume of fluoride, boron and sulphur that, along with the Great Wall of China, was the only man-made object visible from space. The Indians of Bhopal were not the only ones being poisoned by Union Carbide.

Matthiessen describes the development of

political activity among the Indians, a gradual assertion of their own claims of nationhood. All round the country, Florida, California, the Dakotas, Nevada, upstate New York, the same story: some local successes (usually when economic conditions changed anyway); much brutal repression; much indifference and incomprehension; ironically, much interethnic conflict between the new, radical "tribals" and the more or less assimilated "tribals".

The value of Matthiessen's book is that it presents the Indians as genuinely modern political constituents, not as mythological abstractions. It's easy, given the image, to miss the Indians' continuous involvement in the modern world. They have, though unnoticed, continued to act as nations. The "Iroquois" tribes of the Mohawk valley, Cooper country, refused US conscription in 1917 and 1942 but sent volunteers to fight in Europe and the Pacific. They deemed the Korean and Vietnam wars immoral and opted out (a further point of contact with the hippies). In one intriguing incident Matthiessen doesn't mention, on July 31, 1918 the Onondaga Indian nation declared war on Germany.

Indian Country restores a perspective. It may be possible to merely regret the passing of an animal species or a rare flower but the slow genocide of the Indians poses a more sinister question. For if it isn't possible to let a people live who make so few demands on the planet, what hope is there for the rest of us?

how all socio-sexual procedures, rites and customs spring entirely from basic practical considerations. They have little to do with religious, legal or romantic influences. What is imposed (by church or state), if unacceptable will be deviously evaded. More congenial customs and rituals will evolve to fit the needs of the time and place, and alter considerably as these needs alter, often coming round full circle after a century or two. A lot of couples are "living tally" nowadays.

What also comes through, particularly in the earlier chapters, is a very positive portrait of the British personality; of its evolving variations and the subtle, and sometimes not so subtle, changes in attitudes of the different social groups to one another. For all this the book would have benefited enormously from some ruthless editing. Where three examples would do, Professor Gillis gives six. Or seven. Consequently one sometimes feels one is reading an inventory, albeit an informative one. Also one cannot help baulking at certain idiosyncrasies of style. For instance: "The multi-dimensionality of marriages accounts for their 'politics' - that perpetual dissonance of class, age, and gender that is the source of the dramatic changes of the past four centuries." This does not make for easy reading. It is also why Professor Gillis has not been able to imbue the book itself with some of his own passionate involvement with his subjects. A pity.

Those whom God...

by Linette Purbi Perry

20th-century wife.) "Dear Jane Mitton, I solemnly promise to marry you my dear girl. Yours affec. Alex Ray. 18 December 1840." "NOTICE: This here be to inform the public as how James Cole be disposed to sell his wife by Auction. Her be a decent, cleanly woman, and be of age twenty-five years; This sale to take place in the New Inn, Thursday next at seven o'clock." (Late 18th century.)

In fact these so-called "sales" were a form of self-divorce recognized and sanctioned by the community. The wife was led to the market place with a halter around her neck, this public ritual being the proof of "divorce". The lady would probably be exchanged for £1, or even one shilling, by pre-arrangement, to a suitor who would afterwards marry her.

"Broom marriage", "bundling", "jumping the broom", and "living tally" may well be unknown terms to many general readers. Professor Gillis traces the origins and functions of these and other

customs, showing both the demographic and economic influences behind the ritual and how shifts in population produced shifts in etiquette and conventional rules. Even sex status depended on supply and demand.

In his introduction the author claims "It is the central argument of this book that the confugal has always been more an illusive dream than an attainable reality". This is one way of saying that no married couple is an island. Ferdinand Mount, in *The Subversive Family*, argued almost the reverse, and more persuasively (Unwin Paperback, 1982). One feels that Professor Gillis has based his conclusion mostly on his data of working class married life from the late 19th to mid-20th century; a period when, as he tells us, there was the greatest segregation of the sexes and so the greatest emotional gulf between them.

However, what clearly comes through, and as the book is mainly more interesting aspect, is

Flexible notes



Mr Bell's Jam Sessions. By William Bell.

Chester Music. Keyboard Score £3.75. 55763. Instrumental Part £2.20. 55764. Multi-Mix Music. By Ian Marshall. Universal Edition. Teacher's Edition £3.00. 17630. Pupil's Edition 95p. 17630.

Classical Music Kits. Arranged by Alan Frazer. Cramer Music. *Minuet* from Symphony 5 by Schubert. £4.50.

Hornpipe from *The Water Music* by Handel. £4.50.

Sounds like Fun. Arranged by John Robert Brown. International Music Publications. *Send in the Clowns* by Stephen Sondheim. £3.95. 0 86359 290 2.

White Christmas by Irving Berlin. £3.95. 0 86359 291 0.

In their different ways these sets of school material demonstrate a remarkable sense of initiative and enterprise on the part of arrangers and publishers. Flexibility is the keynote.

Whether in terms of the mixed-ability class in the case of *Multi-Mix Music* or the school orchestra in the case of *Sounds like Fun*. In the context of the varied, often decreasing, provision for music in schools this flexibility must be a strong advantage, enabling teachers to adjust what they do both to the children, time allocation and instruments which are available to them. Subtitled "Group music with a

swing", Mr Bell's *Jam Sessions* are aimed at large mixed-ability groups in the 9 to 15 age-range, and consist basically of a simple melody line and keyboard accompaniment to which a second melody and other parts (guitar, bass, untuned percussion) may be added at will. Letter names of notes are included for non-musicians and the pieces are in a somewhat dated dance-band style which makes consistent use of syncopation and repetition.

I have no doubt that the arrangements will prove fun to play, although they will work best in the hands of a teacher with some swing-music experience. *Multi-Mix* consists of six easy tunes from which class arrangements may be created relative to the resources available. "Everybody's Holiday", for example, consists of a simple eight-bar tune and piano accompaniment, an echo tune, counter-tunes and parts for untuned percussion. These musical elements may be mixed in a variety of ways using classroom instruments in order to produce a more or less extended piece from what is essentially a small nucleus of material. Other

titles include "Indian Chants" and "Double Trouble Blues", and the teacher's edition of the book contains a disc of recorded versions of the pieces. *Multi-Mix* is a valuable contribution to classroom repertoire, particularly in relation to the middle-school age-range.

Cramer's *Middle Eight Classical Music Kits* are intended to cater for the needs of those schools where standard orchestral resources are not available. They each consist of a piano conductor score with optional separate parts including C and B flat melody and harmony, easy violin, bass and untuned percussion. They constitute a useful introduction to some classical pieces (although surely the composer's name ought to appear on the title page), and could prove useful in relation to the development of the performance skills required for the new GCSE examinations.

The *Sounds like Fun* series allows the teacher a somewhat greater flexibility of choice. As with the Cramer publications, they may each be performed merely by one melody instrument with piano accompaniment; on the other hand, the arranger provides parts for recorders, clarinets, trumpets, violins, cellos, horns, guitars (chord symbols), and tuned and untuned percussion, so that performance by a large orchestra is possible. The arrangements are effectively done and will be welcomed by middle and lower secondary teachers.

Michael Burnett

Sound vote

Music in the Comprehensive School. By Paul Farmer.

Oxford. £4.50. 0 19 317418 9.

Instruments in Pop and Jazz. By Paul Farmer. Longman. £1.40. 0 582 20218 3.

First published in 1979, *Music in the Comprehensive School* has been reissued in a slightly expanded form taking note of two important areas of curriculum development: the 16-plus examination and the common curriculum. It also covers such topics as mixed-ability teaching, the aims of music education, assessment and non-practical work. This has meant that Chapter 2 ("The Curriculum") has had two extra schemes of work added and Chapter 6 ("Beyond the Third Year") has been expanded. The annotated bibliography has been updated, and sadly the price has been increased.

Since the advent of comprehensive education music teaching has changed beyond all recognition. From being a subject which "claimed more than its fair share of able children" it has, through CSE Mode 3 and the Schools Council Music Project widened its approach and now includes types of music which only 20 years or so ago would be heard in only a handful of schools. The syllabus of the Disco Management Course offered at Dean's Community High School, Lotherian

illustrates this. Built around the pupils' interest it is designed to open up new vistas. It is career-orientated so that students can use their knowledge in the 9 to 15 age-range, I submit that a course like this is far more stimulating to the average child than the type of 16-plus syllabus printed later in the book. Dean's School is a purpose built community school and includes a canteen and cafe. It can obviously offer schemes which are freed from the constraints of normal timetabling.

The section on the 16-plus takes up slightly more than half a page and is followed by a slightly expanded three-page section on the Common Curriculum. The printed 16-plus syllabus (a feasibility study only) together with other schemes I have seen gives me great cause for concern. I can envisage music becoming even more of an elitist subject. It raises such questions as how much consideration has been given to multicultural principles in the list of 30 set works, and what is the wisdom behind teaching the history of music from 1550 to the present? Music groups are small because of what we teach. Faculty-based options and a common curriculum will not change this. Change must come in the syllabus: what we offer must appeal otherwise pupils will continue to "vote with their feet". Paul Farmer has produced a stimulating, wide-ranging and thought-provoking book which will repay careful study.

The latest addition to Longman's excellent Music Topics series describes the instruments normally associated

with Pop and Jazz. Like all the other volumes the present one is pupil-oriented. The style is deliberately kept simple and is aimed at 11 to 14-year-old pupils with little or no specialist knowledge. Each chapter includes constructive classroom activities together with suggestions for further individual work. The instruments described range from the guitar (both electric and acoustic), banjo and saxophone to synthesizers, percussion and the more common members of the brass family. The book is well illustrated with photographs and diagrams. The written material is unpretentious yet entirely adequate. Recommended for the classroom library.

Tom Wanless



Billie Holiday, "...one of the incomparable sounds that jazz has produced". From *Jazz* by Michael Burnett, one of the recent titles in the Oxford Topics in Music series - short, illustrated information books for 11 to 14-year-olds (Oxford University Press £2.75).

On a string

Abracadabra Violin. By Peter Davey.

Violin Extra. Books 1 and 2. A & C Black. £2.25 each.

Stringsongs for viola. By Sheila Nelson.

Boosey and Hawkes. £1.10.

The publication of sheet music is a completely new departure for A & C Black and without doubt, their first three books for violin will be warmly welcomed by string teachers and pupils alike.

In his introduction to *Abracadabra Violin*, Peter Davey asserts that violin learning is easier and more pleasant if students already know the tunes they are attempting to play. All the pieces used in his course are well-known examples of folk, pop and classical music and they are carefully graded in difficulty, commencing with accompaniments using open strings, to be played while the teacher performs the melodies of "Clown Dance" and "Bolero by Shafit", and terminating, 46 pages and 70 tunes later, with the St Anthony Chorus requiring the use of all four fingers and the G, D and A strings.

Throughout, there is a minimum of written instructions and explanations, and because of this, teachers will find it easy to use their own particular strategies for teaching different

aspects of interpretation and technique. Unfortunately *Abracadabra Violin* contains two misleading items of information. First, a confusing illustration of a violinist's left-hand which seems to suggest that the palm rather than the shoulder should actually hold the instrument and second, an instruction in the Contents stating that the tune "Hot Cross Buns" should be played with just one finger - presumably an extremely agile one.

Both books of *Violin Extra*, comprising 93 pieces in total, are specifically designed to complement Peter Davey's course and other violin tutors. Like *Abracadabra Violin*, *Violin Extra* contains the melodies and lyrics of popular songs as well as the occasional dance tune. Hopefully, future editions of all three books will also include accompaniments and speed, volume and expression marks.

Now that the viola version of *Stringsongs* has just been published, each of the three stages of Sheila Nelson's excellent string-playing course has viola parts, which can be performed separately or in combination with violin, cello and piano. *Stringsongs*, which is specifically designed to develop the reading skills learned in the earlier *Tetralines*, contains an attractive selection of rounds, classical pieces and Sheila Nelson tunes - but sadly no pop repertoire.

David Biermann

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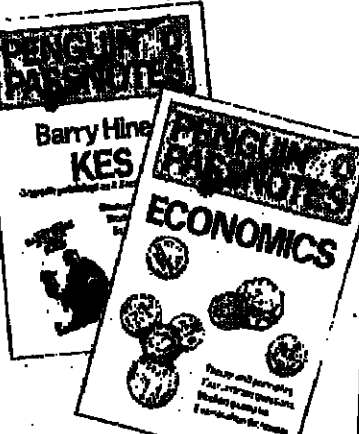
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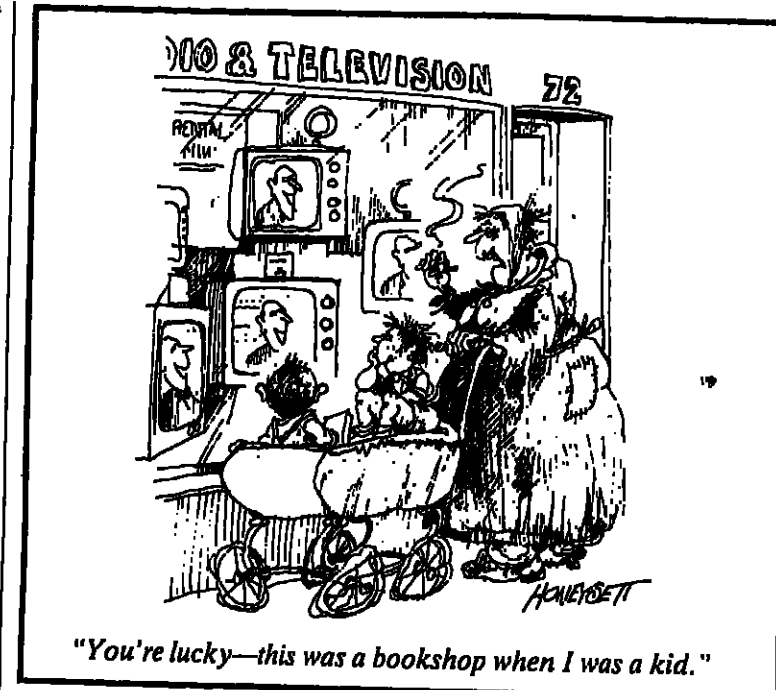
Revolution and rationalization

Working at Leisure. By Barrie Sherman. Methuen £12.95. 0 413 58440 2. £5.95. 58460 7. Youth, Unemployment and Schooling. Edited by Stephen Walker and Len Barton. Open University Press £20.00. 0 335 15228 7. £5.95. 15227 9.

Barrie Sherman is doubly unfortunate. First, in his nominal resemblance to Barry Sheerman MP, a Labour Party employment spokesperson. Second, in having written several books with Clive Jenkins, whose name doubtless collapses his collaborator's contributions.

Now he has struck out on his own he is also unfortunate in the cover inflicted upon him by his publishers, which, like the title and unlike most books about new technology, plays on the meanings of leisure rather than those of work. In fact Sherman's book is a comprehensive and readable account of how work is being transformed by the accelerating application of new technology, particularly computerization, to every level of management, production and distribution. This is a subject whereof he knows what he speaks as former director of research for ASTMS.

Like others, Sherman describes a new industrial revolution inaugurating "post-industrial society". This is misleading, since the first industrial revolution created not only a new working class but also a new class of industrial capitalists. In the latest revolution of technology, however, as he also indicates, the same multi-national companies and banks remain very much in control. Some of the consequences of these changes in technology for the secondary schools and further education colleges reproducing the new generations of workers are presented in



From the Best of Honeysuckle (David and Charles £2.95)

Barton and Walker's carefully titled collection of papers from a 1984 Sociology of Education conference. Sadly, higher education was not included, but the rationalizations proposed there, especially the pilot two-year degree courses and the changes in teacher training, show the same attempt to find a new compromise between education and industry. Denis Gleeson outlines the traditional tripartite divisions at tertiary level and the accentuation of these divisions by the latest expansion of non-advanced FE. However, he does not notice the proliferation in colleges of "multi-skills" workshops and courses previously catering to the

Claire Wallace documents the maintenance of traditional job aspirations among school leavers in Shepperton while describing a Rambo-type reaction to their frustration among young men. However, while it is clear early marriage and the durables required for a new home "tie the youthful consumer into the capitalist economy more securely than work disciplines or training could ever do", the exact position of young women is still unclear. John Horne highlights the continuities between the YTS and the Juvenile Instruction Centres provided by the state in the Thirties. The discontinuities with this tradition are more significant though, particularly MSC's ambitions to universal provision with its ideology of "flexibility" and retraining, as well as the coordination of training under the Department of Employment with changes in education.

Within school, Roger Dale offers a tentative analysis of TVEI based upon his own independent monitoring in Bedfordshire, rather than the propaganda of the MSC's own research project, where "research" - as in other areas of public life - more resembles a public relations exercise. John Solomos traces the position of black youth and the shift from assimilationist measures to recognition of their "special needs", both "functioning more at the level of symbolic politics than concrete political change". Atkinson *et al* attempt a not very helpful classification of vocational preparation courses using Bernstein's structuralist categories and there are also international comparisons with France, Denmark and New Zealand. Both books can be recommended as contributions to our still incoherent understanding of the sweeping changes in education at all levels and the underlying reasons for them.

Pat Ainley

Cuts culture

which these generalized feelings can be interpreted. Growth or contraction, uncertainty or certainty between them produce a range of settings which are typified as the laissez-faire, planned growth, crisis and cuts cultures. There is an excellent discussion of the nature of crisis. In the laissez-faire culture a few officers, commanded councillors and public consent to unstructured growth. The club-like atmosphere continued through to a period of planned growth when corporate planning set in. With contraction and its crisis culture the service began to weaken both physically and psychologically. The study records "profound changes in the way in which work is organized, authority exercised and people rewarded and controlled".

If it is possible to create what the author calls a "mature" cuts culture, which goes beyond mere defensiveness and pragmatism? When people are off balance it might be possible to cause change. Unfreezing becomes more possible when things are on the move. Contraction has brought with it some moves towards flexibility. For example, Cambridgeshire and other authorities are moving towards budgetary devolution. The countervailing danger is that reformers may create and then exploit crises in order to impose solutions which ignore good practical traditions. On this issue, as with others the book is somewhat limited by its experiential base. Thus the pressure for change from the DES on the curriculum and on teacher accountability might be factors sharpening anxiety. Apprehension about the encroachments of the MSC may induce uncertainties about the lines of authority. And within the local authority's political and administrative settings, which are cuts the most important contributor to crisis in the schools? If the analysis had been extended to those very different local authorities which hollered so expensively at rate caps,

Hewton would have found staffing ratios better than those of some universities. Yet life is undoubtedly difficult for teachers in them. Nor does money necessarily make for clean schools where the unions have secured an excellent way of life for school keepers whose accountability is kept well clear of the teaching staff they are supposed to support. Cuts may affect standards but, particularly in city centres, there are other factors at work. Schools are now impermanent, susceptible to merger and uncertain of their pupil numbers. These problems can be attributed to demography. At the same time there is a struggle for identity and authority. Whole-school policies on discipline and learning skills take a back seat in areas where administrators and heads are afflicted less by cuts than by the sharpening of conflict and the erosion of confidence by the assertion of ideology over the claims of professional standards and of good management. So Eric Hewton's analysis is valuable but the forces weakening professional identity and the public good go beyond the factors which to which he has given prominence.

Maurice Kogan

Future-control

the subject concerned; to ensure that the learning tasks set for pupils are designed to develop both content and process; and to make the assessment criteria clear to the pupils. A useful list of "nine steps" shows how pupils can be guided to ask the questions which will lead them to find, examine, select, reject, record, interpret and present information, and then to evaluate what they have achieved at the end of the assignment. Examples of assignments illustrate how pupils can become more independent and self-directed in their learning; and the details of a whole-school policy with regard to information skills are discussed. It is claimed that the benefits extend beyond school; they offer "control of the future".

Reading Strategies and their Assessment is concerned with formative assessment in English reading - assessment of pupils' progress, not at the end of a unit or course, but while teaching and learning are (or are intended to be) taking place. The book, based on research in primary and secondary schools, concentrates on three kinds of reading task: "Search-Do" (dictionary use), "Comprehend-Do" (form-filling) and "Comprehend-Personal Response" (novel-reading). Diagnostic assessment reveals some unexpected difficulties encountered by pupils; some pupils' view of the assessment tasks and the tasks themselves seems neither "natural" nor "obvious" to a mature reader. Useful insights are offered into pupils' difficulties and strategies, and there are some interesting ideas to help with informal assessment in day-to-day teaching. Examinations is about summative assessment: the context, function,

equity and future of mass examinations - mainly the school examinations conducted by the examination boards in England and Wales. Examinations are "fair game in the hunt for educational scapegoats"; and yet they flourish - even to the extent of "certificate inflation". Why? An answer may be found in the "commensurate" on the origins, purposes and content of the examinations. The procedures of large-scale examining are outlined: setting papers, marking, standardizing and awarding. The author describes examining as a "varied and complex task", carried out year after year "with relentless efficiency" by the examination boards. Different techniques of examining are discussed, as are social bias, comparability, standards and "new ventures" (including GCSE). In conclusion, the author advocates the retention of examinations, though with "radical change". Informative, entertaining, the book could become a prescribed text for anyone concerned with the examination system.

Bridget Loney

That other ocean

A Single Man. By Christopher Isherwood. Methuen £8.95. 0 413 47450 X. £4.95. 59630 3.

The most celebrated "single man" in English literature is the one in the opening sentence of *Pride and Prejudice*. Isherwood's George, an Englishman in his fifties, living in California in 1962, certainly isn't in want of a wife; his lover, Jim, has been killed in an accident and is badly missed. But George's beach-side neighbours with their "litter after litter after litter of noisy children, and his students who make such heavy weather of reading Aldous Huxley find him in want of the best things in life, a misfit, cagey. He feels like a man trying to sell them a diamond for a nickel; "the great hurrying majority can never stop to dare to believe that it could conceivably be real." He entertains fantasies of revenge on them, sees them (echoing

Wyndham Lewis?) as *The Enemy*. Isherwood contemplates him as he drives, hating, down the freeway. "Rage, resentment, spleen; of such is the vitality of middle age." This part of the novel is acutely realized, blending sour distaste and affection in a vivid third-person narrative penetrated by the observations of an author who knows the inside of his protagonist's mind. It establishes the terms, too, for a richer fiction. The "Double Man" (the American title of Auden's *New Year Letter*) is a name for all of us who "believe what we disbelieve and cannot rid ourselves of what we condemn". George finds himself affirming the American pieties his vaguely bohemian life has affronted, lectures his students on the lazy moral evasions of liberal tolerance, even improvises a paean to the American motel-room as the true hermit's cell, where uniform furnishings allow the mind to travel free. Isherwood characteristically attempts

to explore the spirit through matter, through the complexity of George's experience. The book suggests that a double man can restore his singleness not by using experience but by having it; as George says in his climactic drunken conversation with a student he desires, "What I know is what I am". It suggests that this understanding comes not with meditation or other West Coast nostrums but with death; the death of the self as it merges with a wider consciousness as the rock-pools merge in the night with "the waters of that other ocean", or the death by heart failure that is pre-figured (or is it described?) for George in the book's closing pages. But it's suggested only. "A book can't read itself to you. It doesn't even know what it's about." The novel's classical form encloses the events of a single day and it's told with engaging clarity and subtle ambiguity. Isherwood's skill will be missed.

Tom Deveson

Before the deluge

Imperial Mother, Royal Daughter. By Olivier Bernier. Chatto and Jackson £12.95. 0 283 99342 1.

The closing years of the *ancien régime* could hardly be better evoked than by this fascinating, yet sad, series of letters written between 1770 and 1780. The correspondents are the matriarch Empress Maria Theresa of Austria, her immature daughter Marie Antoinette, future doomed Queen of France, and the comte de Mercy Argenteau, Austrian Ambassador to France, a skilful diplomat who, surprisingly, received copies of all letters which passed between mother and daughter.

The marriage of the 15-year-old Marie Antoinette to the 16-year-old Dauphin, grandson of Louis XV, in 1770 was an alliance arranged primarily by Maria Theresa to strengthen her anti-Prussian policy, and her letters repeatedly stress the fact that come what may, her daughter must remain Austrian at heart, while being "willing, sweet and amusing" towards her young husband. She must wear regularly, read good books, care for her figure by wearing a corset, clean her teeth, show deference to older people and not ride too much, lest a possible pregnancy be harmed. Initially, awed by the glittering ritual of Versailles, where the royal family was constantly on show, Marie Antoinette followed her mother's precepts, though she found it difficult to be civil to Madame du Barry who

horrified her. It was, though, her husband's inability to consummate the marriage which recurs so frequently in her letters. Louis was slow and unromantic, though basically kind, and preferred to spend his energies on hunting, masonry and carpentry to the exclusion of all else. It was in fact only after seven years of marriage and his circumlocution that the couple produced their first child.

Meanwhile, frustrated and headless of her mother's and Mercy's warnings, Marie Antoinette plunged into a whirl of frivolous pleasures and wild expense on jewels and outrageous clothes - small wonder that Maria Theresa was aghast at her three foot high coiffures, and Mercy at the cost of setting up the Trianon. Worse still, after becoming Queen in 1774, she involved herself in home and foreign affairs, dominating Louis XVI and supporting always the Austrian rather than the French cause, with resultant increasing unpopularity, which was fuelled too by false accounts of her alleged immoral behaviour. To her credit, in a Court where dissipation and loose living were the norm, she remained totally loyal to her husband and a practising Catholic.

This most candid correspondence ends with the death of Maria Theresa, leaving her daughter grief-stricken, yet seemingly unable to sense the perils that lay ahead. Immature, spontaneous, called too young to assume too heavy responsibilities, she perhaps deserves pity more than blame.

Eric Church

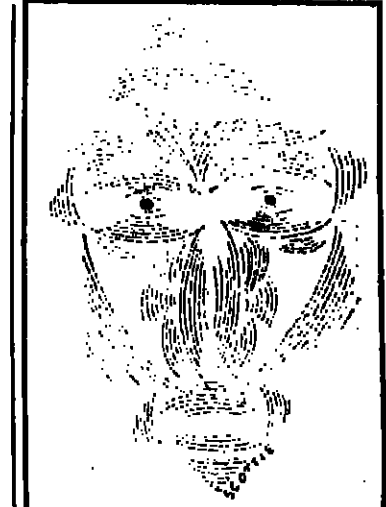
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It's All Writ Out For You is George Melly's characteristically quirky biography of the Glaswegian naïve artist Scottie Wilson (Thames and Hudson £12.50). Top, an untitled drawing, 1970; above, "Self Portrait with Birds", 1950.

Secret Villages. By Douglas Dunn. Faber £3.95. 0 571 13859 4.

Where Milton, according to Johnson, could not carve heads upon cherubons, Douglas Dunn most effectively can. It is a skill that requires delicate judgement. In "Bobby's Room", a young boy disapproves of a landlady's "lack of resilience" in showing to visitors snapshots of her absent son. Such subtle reaction to what we usually ignore as unremarkable behaviour informs all these stories. Each has appeared elsewhere: three in *Encounter*, four in *Punch* and nine in the *New Yorker*. "Sexual? Good God, no, nothing like that." This comment, arresting in its context, is true also of these stories, except for a mordant glance at life in an inferior university ("a YMCA with a library") at which an ironic choice between "sexual conquest and academic advancement" has to be made. The style is coaxing, and yet the verbs are predominantly active. This assists the sense of movement and

surprise. Also the phrasing is evocative: sunsets float "like benedictions" and time is a "ruderless progression". Dunn excites the reader with these challenging observations, so that, for example, the phrase "hedonistic gauntness" at first disconcerts and then totally satisfies. Each tale, though modest in plot, confronts us with unanticipated nuances of behaviour. After a wealthy woman buys a present for her housekeeper's son, the story's emphasis changes to his relationship with his parents. A gypsy girl's throwing back a coin given her by a shy boy causes him a confusion his mother is not anxious to dispense. Occasional misjudgements occur, as in "Twins", where he presumes upon Maureen an overdone symbol. However, his success lies in not telling us what we must feel; he guides us towards what it would be unrewarding not to feel. And because these stories are miniatures, we may with ease reread them, and appreciate the craftsmanship that made them.

Roger Freebairn

lingo

Git

When Mr Brian Sedgmore, the 17-stone Labour MP for Hackney South, called the equally well-fed Chancellor of the Exchequer a snivelling little git, Mister Speaker did not hear, or affected not to hear. However, many lingo-ists pricked up their ears, and wondered what exactly a git was.

One commentator stated confidently that it was a Cockney slang for illegitimate, apparently not worrying too much about the difference between a noun and an adjective. Another said that it was a term he came to late in life, when it was directed at him in a North of England newsroom by a reporter who dubbed all non-northerners Cockney gits. When asked what the word meant, the reporter merely repeated it.

A perfectly awful third leader in the *Glasgow Herald* took the matter up, saying that the word was in no dictionary, "or at least none which come readily to hand"; which does not say much for the reference library of that normally responsible newspaper. It also toyed with the notion that there might be some connection with the Spanish "gitano", but wisely discarded that bit of whimsy.

It also said that whether the Chancellor was a git would be beyond the ken of most Scots, who had been protected from such phrases. This immediately reminded me that, as a youth in the West of Scotland, a common term of abuse was a "git". This was confirmed by the recently published *Concise Scots Dictionary*, which gives git, git or gye as meaning a brat or a bastard. A gye is also a junior pupil at the Royal High School of Edinburgh, and a gell is a boy in the first year of the Upper School of the Edinburgh Academy.

These are evidently derivatives of a word, connected with all these "be-gats" in the Old Testament, which mean birth or progeny.

That the noun "git" is not purely Scots is shown by Eric Partridge's *Dictionary of Historical Slang*, where it is given as a child, especially in the phrase "one of his git" - of his offspring, of his begetting. This was standard English until about 1750, when it became colloquial only. After about 1870 it was used only of animals, or pejoratively.

The OED gives "git" as respectable for child or offspring back to 1320, eg, "myn owne gite"; and as contemptuous in Scotland and the North of England back to 1508, eg, "Pais traupour, feynids git". The OED Supplement shows "git" in print in 1946; "Chalky, you idle git!" and Pinter used it in *The Caretaker* in 1960. In 1967, in the *Listener*, there appeared the full-blooded: "That bald-headed, moon-faced, four-eyed git grinning on about Harold Wilson."

The precise meaning of the word? It is the same as the description by John Adams of Alexander Hamilton: "The bastard brat of a Scotch pedlar." In other words, I don't like him.

W S Brownlie

Perfect miniatures

Secret Villages. By Douglas Dunn. Faber £3.95. 0 571 13859 4.

Where Milton, according to Johnson, could not carve heads upon cherubons, Douglas Dunn most effectively can. It is a skill that requires delicate judgement. In "Bobby's Room", a young boy disapproves of a landlady's "lack of resilience" in showing to visitors snapshots of her absent son. Such subtle reaction to what we usually ignore as unremarkable behaviour informs all these stories. Each has appeared elsewhere: three in *Encounter*, four in *Punch* and nine in the *New Yorker*. "Sexual? Good God, no, nothing like that." This comment, arresting in its context, is true also of these stories, except for a mordant glance at life in an inferior university ("a YMCA with a library") at which an ironic choice between "sexual conquest and academic advancement" has to be made. The style is coaxing, and yet the verbs are predominantly active. This assists the sense of movement and

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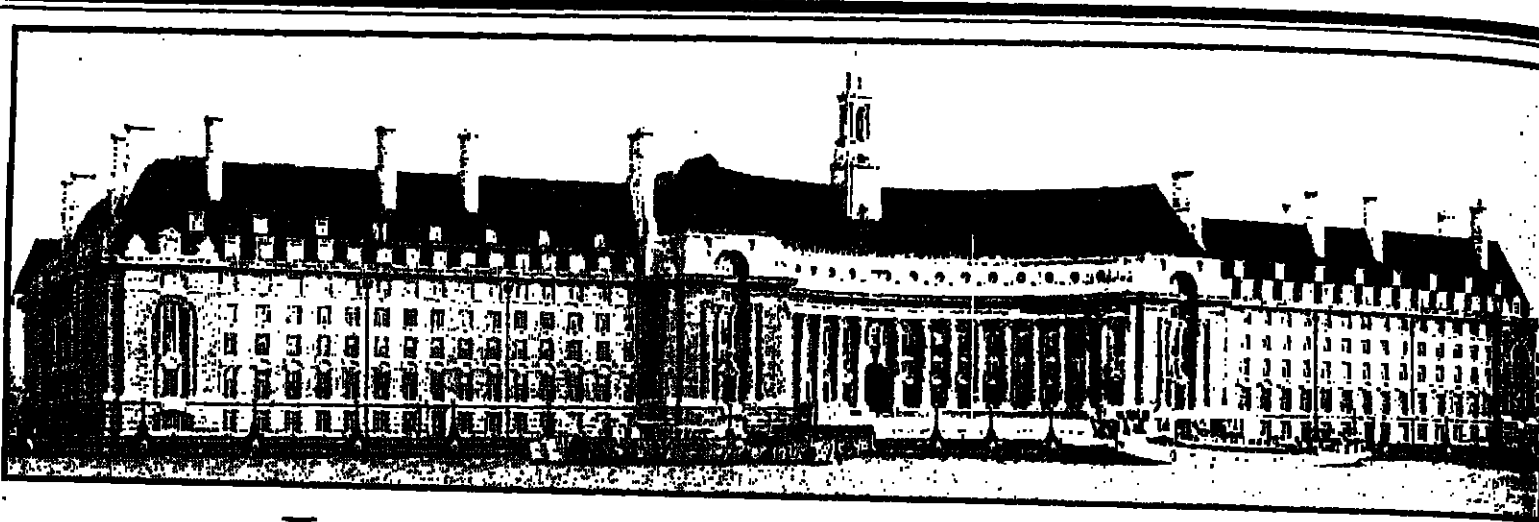
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The Easter Egg Festival - clowns, music, storytelling, the GLC playleaders making hats and friezes - will be the last children's festival for the GLC. Such things have in the past gone extremely well: the shows were good, lots of people came and enjoyed themselves, budget limits were kept, everybody was pleased. This one is different because it's part of a huge GLC arts events goodbye to London which runs for the 10 days up to Easter weekend. It's and, in a way, but everyone in Campaign Events, the department in charge, want to go out on a high, celebrating what they've achieved.

County Hall feels weird now. It still smells of schools and there's still a lot of corridor politics, but the atmosphere has changed. People look besieged, there are notices everywhere about redundancy, residuary bodies, union meetings, time off for job interviews. Its extraordinary facilities for staff, however - the restaurants, cafeterias, wine bar, shop, chapel - are all still functioning. It is like a little city that you needn't go out of for very much.

In the cafeteria the talk is nearly all gloom. "Twenty-three years' service, and now what?" The future looks worrying for projects as well as people. "X may be saved, partnership money, but all that effort into it, it's a tragedy. Outside the main cafeteria there are often jumble sales (eg animal welfare) and usually somebody tries to get you to sign a petition under the notice board, where the artwork on the staff sales are is often excellent. You could buy a Renault 5 or a Cortina or an N registered Lancia car. If you only want groceries, past the Service Circular Bar the Staff Shop has five star coffees, boot polish, lasagne, clove, deodorant and washing-up liquid.

By a series of quirks, Campaign Events has lately been moved onto the first, or members', floor of County Hall and so has a post office with oak panelling and a view of the river. Campaign Events was set up 18 months ago, initially to run arts events as part of the campaign to save the GLC. After the abolition vote the department went on providing festivals, one-off concerts, exhibitions and



Last stand at County Hall

The GLC is going out in a blaze of publicity. Frances Farrer, organizer of its last children's festival, reports

so on, for a wide range of audiences, whether they were interested in black music, VE Day celebrations, the Pensioners Day, or festivals for children. The head of it, Madeleine Williams, usually gets in between 7.30 and 8 am. She is very pessimistic about the future of arts patronage in a climate where the Arts Council is being encouraged to look for patrons. "Big companies use the arts as a means, and that offends me," she says. "It's dangerous once they're being used for status and prestige. In America there are 1450 large-scale symphony orchestras and they seldom do contemporary music or chamber music, but there's loads of mediocre opera - anything for a gala evening."

Getting our leaflet out in time to catch the LLEA mailing looks fraught: I've written the text but it has to go through the County Hall design office and their printers, all of which will take three or four weeks, which will be too late, but it may not be possible to contract the work outside. Over at the Purcell Room, where the festival will be, the atmosphere is similarly

fraught. Some of the technical staff may be offered their jobs again (but with reduced earnings because of reduced overtime) though many, like Reg at the artists' entrance, will not. There's a lot of talk about the new sub-contracting arrangements for stewards and security people, which mean fewer staff and at lower wages. Despite the murmurs we have a useful meeting and sort out questions of stage management, which is relatively simple at the Purcell Room as it's a concert platform with little in the way of lighting and sound equipment. The simple answer is to book clown companies who are used to working in informal situations and don't need technical back-up; and musicians, for whom the Purcell Room was designed.

We spend longer working out what we may be able to do in the foyer. There will be storytelling, more clowning, and the GLC playleaders who do toy bat-making and face-painting. The questions are where to put them and how to make them look exciting. Fire regulations, habit, and seemingly inexorable seating, have all to be

considered. Quite a few of the Concert Halls staff don't like children's events. Children are certainly noisier and stickier than concert audiences but so far there's never been a serious mishap, and we clean up superbly afterwards. For an event like this one there's a great deal of placating to be done, and coaxing, and writing memos. In County Hall there are labyrinthine procedures and custom, mined with people's feelings. You can set something up and have it agreed; put it to the back of your mind, and discover much later (by accident) that it has been 90 per cent scuppered by someone in higher authority who is miffed at not having been asked first.

But, annoying as these procedures are, at least there's an end result. Who will finance children's events when the GLC goes? Sikorsky is backing major art shows, Benson & Hedges wittily subsidise a singing competition, but there's no prestige attached to audiences of under-10s. Tickets to these shows are subsidised to £1 and £2, which means that whole families can

afford to come on each of the four days if they want to. Foyer events are free. The programme changes every day. Commercial managements simply can't do this sort of thing, nor do they want to do Latin American week (there are 100,000 Latin Americans in Greater London) or gospel concerts. The efforts of Campaign Events over the past 18 months have been in direct response to what people have told them they wanted. They've spent about £2.5m, or 0.2 per cent of the total GLC budget, on hundreds of events.

I try not to think about it, and go back to the much simpler question of whether to provide hot dogs or not. It the first show each day starts at 2pm.

Easter Egg Festival runs from Good Friday to Easter Monday inclusive, with clown shows at 2 pm, storytelling at 3 pm, music at 4 pm, and the GLC playleaders from 1 pm onwards. The Purcell Room is next to the Hayward Gallery, nearest underground and BR station, Waterloo.

Chingari Royal Albert Hall, March 4-6 and various locations throughout London until March 28. Information on 01-633 1275/1588. The East End Festival Various locations until March 22. Information from the Half Moon Theatre 01-791 1141.

As the GLC slinks, it continues to send up flares by helping to fund various cultural events across London. One of these, Chingari, a "celebration of Asian popular culture", put on in association with the Academy of Performing Arts had as its highlights three performances at the Albert Hall, although other events continue until the end of March.

The opening concert was a slightly scrappy affair, beginning late because immigration officers at Heathrow airport had held up the incoming Rajasathi troupe for 11 hours. Most of it was taken up by popular music sung to a backing of guitars and drums - first by a young Asian band, Ball with Anger, whose overlong repertoire consisted mainly of versions of film songs, and then by the Bangladeshi

single Runa Laila, who was clearly the main attraction for a large section of the audience. Much the most interesting item, however, was a too brief performance by the Rajasathi musicians and dancers, the men dressed in the striking saffrons, pinks and reds worn by many peasants in that part of India. There is, fortunately, another chance to see this entertaining group and its energetic, swirling dances tomorrow as part of the Camden Festival.

The other two concerts included the Indian film actress Shabana Azmi in a programme of Urdu songs and poetry, the music of the Bangla - a group described as "mythic itinerants" from Bengal, and several distinguished Indian and Pakistani musicians.

Asian culture also figures prominently in the eighth East End Festival, currently taking place at a large number of venues throughout that part of London. *Meer Bangladesh*, a series of events about Bangladesh, is almost over when I write, looks at weddings, music, women, and the Islamic religion; a long epic drama set to music and dance deals with the oppression of poor Bengali peasants; the Bharata

ARTS

Saffrons, pinks and reds

Well fed

The Threepenny Opera Varley Hall, Peter Symonds' College, Winchester, March 4-7.

"Food is the first thing. Morals follow on." Forty-five well-fed students of Peter Symonds College delivered a powerful moral lesson here to a highly appreciative audience in a transformed Varley Hall. The producer, David Lea, a respected professional actor and head of college drama designed a stunning set of plaster-covered beggars' rags which gradually became less concrete as they spewed from the auditorium arch and round the audience. The audience sat at tables topped with bread, and entered the intervals by a unicycling, fire-eating juggler.

The whole cast were confident, enthusiastic, and just plain good. Peachum (Gareth Bloomfield, at 16 the youngest in the cast) and Mrs

Peachum (Sue Anderson, 17) had such a rapport that they must have acted together for 25 years. Jon Pygott, like a combination of Simon Callow and Steve Harley, played Macheath with a commanding manic zeal, only occasionally losing his lines through too much volume. Juliet Howland, an innocent, knowing, tender, hard, naive and cynical Polly, glowed like Clara Bow and sang superbly.

The musicians, placed behind the stage so that they drowned nobody, were competent enough to speed up at the one point Peachum's adrenalin threatened to lead the chorus too quickly, and the chorus were disciplined and professional enough to slow him down.

Occasional anachronisms could have been annoying - flip-top cigarette packet, a plastic washer on a decenter top - but Bread would probably not have disappeared as it added to the alienation effect. In all, this was the best amateur production I have seen for years; it deserves a wider audience.

Brian Espiner

Outbursts

The Winter's Tale. Birmingham Repertory Theatre until March 22. Play Day for schools on March 20. Tel 021-236 2302.

A bare palace courtyard, its walls overhung by leafless branches, its stone-flagged floor dappled with the sun of early autumn, makes a propitious setting (by Christopher Morley and students of Birmingham Polytechnic school of theatre design) for Clive Perry's production in which the opening dance seems to be the last flicker of a long, carefree summer. That jollity is being sustained beyond its natural limit becomes quickly obvious, when the tart prowling figure of Leontes, whose brooding squire erupts into a spasm of rage. Peter Woodward sustains the tension well throughout the long First Act,

(which takes us to the discovery of the baby girl by the shepherds), with periods of catatonic withdrawal punctuated by ever more ferocious, and irrational, outbursts. Anne-Marie Marriot as Hermione handles him with a quiet dignity making her sudden collapse, at news of her son's death, the more poignant.

The pastoral scenes are less successful with the same abstract set adding little to the sense of rebirth, except a slight coloration of green in the slides projected onto the back walls, and the daily seeming forced and uncomfortable. A lacklustre performance from Bob Grant as Autolycus robs the second half of its comic potential and it is not until we are back at the court of Sicilia, to a greying, sorrow-laden Leontes that interest picks up. The statue scene is gracefully handled, with crisp, no-nonsense stage management from Antonia Pemberton's Paulina, and a sense of real warmth suffuses the reconciliation scenes.

Ann FitzGerald

Murder

The Marat/Sade Leeds Playhouse until March 22.

"We want a revolution now!" sing the deranged inmates of the lunatic asylum at Charenton, 15 years after the Revolution which did France of the Sun King. The young, self-satisfied, bourgeois M. Coulmier does not see the irony, as he beams down upon the players as they re-enact the murder of Marat by Charlotte Corday under the direction of the notorious Marquis de Sade. "Do you call this education?" he thunders at one stage, unaware of the benefits of educational drama.

The Marat/Sade weathers well. Any fears that it might be regarded as just a slice of the Sixties are proven to be unfounded in this beautifully raucous production, which is of a version translated by Geoffrey Skelton and Adrian Mitchell. There are within it, now even more poignant ironies and repercussions than when it first caused such a stir in Berlin in 1964 and then later in the legendary London production directed by Peter Brook as the "high point of his 'Theatre of Cruelty' season."

Superbly designed by Norman Coates, the interior of the asylum is represented by grim concrete slabs, white washroom tiles and a massive steel mesh barrier topped with barbed wire. It might be a Soviet psychiatric ward for dissidents. All the characters are very much of the 20th century. The revolutionary priest Jacques Roux, for example, has a memorable performance from Ken Shorter) might be a modern practitioner of Liberation Theology in Latin America. This is living history indeed.

Dick Wilcocks

ENDPAGE

Jenny Gilbert visits the National Film Archive; TIE in Northampton and Watford; Lost Magic Kingdoms at the Museum of Mankind, page 35



Northward bound

Philippa Davidson previews Schools Prom North

Schools Prom North Free Trade Hall, Manchester, March 17 and 18.

Back in 1975 they said it would never happen. How could a school concert fill the Albert Hall? As it turned out, everybody, including Larry Westland and The Ties (at that time the sole sponsor), was wrong. In 10 years, one night became three, 3,000 participants quadrupled, and last year the Schools Prom moved North to Manchester.

Credit for extending the concerts to the North of England must go to Larry Westland, astute manager of Music for Youth, a non-profit-making organization with charitable status. The band tradition has meant that the North-West of England, Yorkshire and the Midlands have always been well represented at the Proms, but as bussing children around the country becomes increasingly costly it seemed only fair to offer participants and supporters a chance of a musical day out nearer home. In addition Schools Prom North

allows groups who did not perform at the London Proms to take their turn on stage. "We planned last year's Schools Prom North as a one off event to celebrate our 10th anniversary," says Larry Westland. "But it was so successful we decided to make it an annual event."

The 1975 Schools Prom must have been one of the first occasions on which a steel band appeared on the formal concert platform. Now a Schools Prom without a steel band would be unthinkable. On March 18 the Pantoastic Steel Band from Derby will be appearing at the Free Trade Hall. Their teacher, Mrs Anne Johns, wonders whether they are the only "thoroughly multicultural/transcultural" group at the Proms. Six members are West Indian, seven are Asian and seven are English. The music they play, spans, calypso, Latin American, pop and big band.

The Pantoastics share a programme with the Leominster Early Music ensemble and Lydgate Records from Sheffield, a group that succeeds in

producing the most musical sounds from the often shrill classroom instrument. Monday night features old favourites - the youth jazz bands of Doncaster and Wigan, plus a Scarborough contingent that includes Seaby School and its infectious "42nd Street" (above). There is also an opportunity to hear a group of very small accordionists from Colchester and Ludlow School's compelling drama "Prometheus". Schools Prom North promises a chance to experience live two nights of the best in school music - much more fun than waiting to see it on television. What next? Schools Prom Wales, of course!

For further information ring Richard Mallett, Schools Prom North, 01-730 2628. Schools Prom North is sponsored by the Association of Music Industries, Commercial Union Assurance, Marks and Spencer and The Times Educational Supplement. The concerts also receive financial backing from Greater Manchester council, Hestair Hope and Kodak.

Travelling Nowhere. Quill Theatre Company at the Young Vic Studio, then touring London (details on 01-674 3318).

The title of this play is too apt. Like the travellers (not gypsies) that are its subject, it doesn't have the slightest idea where it's going. It knows where it's coming from, though - the traditions and trials of the travelling life, embodied in a genuine ninth-generation traveller included in the cast. Big Jimmy Stewart, who appears to play himself, looks like Harry Spoombe used to look, only serious.

What we see is the contrast between two families on a site in London. Lees, headed by Tom the site manager, are travellers who have settled down and lost some of the traditions but retained the virtues of travellers. They come into minor conflict with the

Trials and traditions

more straggling Smiths. Somehow I don't believe in the Smiths. For a start, their son Nathan has clearly got a fixation with Harpo Marx (and old style travellers don't watch television or go to the cinema) and he's also spent a long time in the sort of alternative theatre where everyone can fire-ant and play five instruments at the same time.

The body of the play is jolly enough, interspersed with songs and anecdotes from Big Jim. The stage is packed with traveller paraphernalia (including a horse) and there is an enjoyably



L is for Lear

Full Fathom Five. National Theatre/Shape tour of day centres in Greater London until March 21.

Full Fathom Five is the latest play to be commissioned by the National Theatre Studio, run by Peter Gill. It fulfils one of the two main functions of the Studio: to generate new writing and experimental work (the other being to provide the NT company with a place "to refine and extend its skills"). But this particular play has unusual origins since, as Peter Gill puts it, "the NT's education department 'acted as midwife' and the tour has been set up with Shape, an organization which works to facilitate access to the arts for the disabled. This project follows up the joint Education Department/Shape tour of Good Old Pop last year.

Simon Bent, a young writer whose previous experience has been mainly

in community drama, began by visiting day centres, like the ones to be included in the tour, and talking to people. Such patients may be recovering from breakdowns or strokes or coming to terms with physical disability, conditions which do not involve a loss of intellectual understanding.

When asked what they would like to see a play about, the patients frequently replied "Me, my problems". There seemed to be two choices open: a semi-documentary "social issue" play or an exciting theatrical entertainment designed to take the audience out of themselves, but nevertheless relevant to their situation. Simon Bent chose the latter, realizing it did not have to be what Peter Gill calls "a jolly knee-up".

As its title suggests, *Full Fathom Five* owes something to Shakespeare. Quite a lot, in fact. The author has imagined an island where Shakespeare and his manservant are marooned in Purgatory. There is to be no escape until they have lived through the lives of all the chief characters in the canon. If you are up to L - Lear. Whenever possible, others are seconded to help and, as it happens, Reg, a kitchen porter, and Brenda, a working girl on a dream cruise, are cast ashore from a wrecked liner. Reg becomes possessed by King Lear, Brenda by Lady Macbeth and here there is a metaphor for those undergoing emotional crisis. Reg and Brenda emerge changed and strengthened and are eventually able to escape. Not that this is presented as a triumph. Reg has a certain optimism if you want to find it.

No one involved - writer, director (Tim Fywell) or actors (Peter Atkin, Anthony Douse, Linda Henry and Guy Williams) - has a patronising sense of mission. Although they have all visited day centres, their chief purpose is to present an entertaining play of the highest possible quality. And although Simon Bent started with a particular audience in mind, *Full Fathom Five* may be presented elsewhere in the future.

Heather Nell

Above: Shakespeare (Guy Williams) and his manservant Len (Peter Atkin) in rehearsal

Television

Tory choice

could make a killing. We shall see when the government disposes of British gas, airways, bus companies, airports and other assets.

Peter Blakind's study of Hollywood in the Fifties (*Seeing is Believing*) classified Twelve Angry Men (BBC2, March 8) as the archetypal "liberal consensus" movie, while Hancock (a splendid parody (BBC1, March 9) seems to have agreed with Blakind that it all had to do with consensus rather than justice, butling the jury into a "not guilty" verdict before changing his own mind and bringing them all back to "guilty".

If Mervyn Peake had set Mr Pye (Channel 4, from March 2) in Sussex instead of on Sark, it might have cost less to make and not obliged Channel 4 to hype it up as anything but a whimsical tale, well enough acted. Magnum (ITV, Tuesdays) also has an exotic island location and when you

take this, a hunky private investigator (Tom Selleck) who is a Vietnam veteran, and a supporting cast of comic Englishmen, black helicopter pilot and assorted bartenders, it should add up to no more than a packet of popcorn. It is saved by a measure of irony and originality. Two weeks ago, a hold-up was retold in three different versions by the witnesses, leaving Magnum to explain that the clue to the crime lay in the detail common to all three stories - and nearly getting himself shot for his brilliance. In another episode, the whole hour was devoted to Magnum's strategy for survival when washed overboard from his yacht. Any series that is able to question the plot formulae of its genre is something to be thankful for.

Every Window Tells a Story (Channel 4, from March 3) could be the title of a television series about television; in fact, it examines the "conservative consensus" expressed through medieval stained glass. Even Malcolm Miller's pedagogy (he comes on like a liberal studies lecturer trying to impress an FE inspector with a Friday-afternoon class of engineering apprentices) cannot detract from the interest of what he has to say or the beauty of what he has to show.

Robin Buss

Radio

Sitting comfortably?

What is disturbing is that, while the outcry seems to have been entirely in defence of the often bland story, the change in scheduling has pleased the non-letterwriting majority as it seems more people are now listening at this time of day. What is also noteworthy is how loudly *Kaleidoscope* has been called on to curtail its output, by encouraging serious or innovative television. Hearing a dire example on (I think) BBC Radio Leicester the other day made me realize how rare and valuable is the daytime presenter (like Radio Norfolk's Neil Walker) who will take a stand against his listeners' prejudices.

David Self

Different shades of Conservative opinion discussed party policies on education in A Week in Politics (Channel 4, March 7). They ranged from free-market advocates of a voucher scheme to paternalist Lord Beloff, who believed that only a minority of parents could make an informed choice and suggested taking education away from local authorities. This last proposal united the other three members of the panel. Gleefully branding it "nationalization", they managed to imply that "Mar" was some kind of amiable alien eccentric and so were unimpressed by arguments from the experience of other European countries. Mark Carle, a conservative Conservative, rejected both vouchers and "nationalization"; and this microcosm of Torydom was completed by John Barnes. He wanted vouchers which "the parent would present... at the school of his choice", incidentally giving an opinion on another matter at the same time. Supply your own emphasis: in male Tory discourse, certain assumptions pass without underlining.

Then again, if Tories are such strong believers in market forces, *World in Action* asked (ITV, March 3), why did they sell off British Telecom well below the market price? Perhaps a *World in Action* implied, it is quite simple: the city set the price so that it

The current radio debate is not whether Radio 1 should be privatized nor whether community radio will be the mouthpiece of all oppressed minorities or an amateurish form of hospital broadcasting. It is not even about whether the promised national commercial network will mean existing competition for Radio 4 or financial ruin for the independent local stations. No: it is about the death of *Storyline*.

This serial story slot (4.45 on weekdays, Radio 4) was the last remaining relic of *Children's Hour* and, when recent economies had to be made, it was replaced by a repeat of the previous evening's *Kaleidoscope*. The resulting clamour has been deafening as those who have enjoyed a cosy bedtime serial plead for its restoration and the downfall of *Kaleidoscope*, apparently attacked by one correspondent for covering "homosexuality and other minority art forms".

Dublin Poster
For a free copy of an attractive poster delightfully illustrated by Andale together with our brochure on individual individual holidays to - Time Out Ltd., 2a Chester Close, London SW1X 7BG.

University of Hull
CREATIVE AND AESTHETIC EDUCATION
(Edited by Anne Bloomfield)
'Aspects of Education'
Available from Institute of Education
173 Colindale Avenue, N.W.9, U.K. 92H.
price 25.00, post free

Operation Raleigh: Exploration in Learning
Complete pack £29.50 + £4.03 p&p
Operation Raleigh, The Dome, Upper
Bognor Road, Bognor Regis, West
Sussex PO21 1HR.

One learns to approach research packs about other cultures with a certain caution since they rarely bear out the claims made for them and can, in effect, be rather more misleading than enlightening. It is then a great pleasure to be able to say *Operation Raleigh: Exploration in Learning* lives up to its title.

It consists of fairly standard items: a video tape, 25 workbooks, a game and a colour-printed project book, all extremely well integrated. There are plenty of avenues for a class to explore (on home-based or international subjects) and, perhaps more important, plenty of information so that a group of children or a class teacher unfamiliar with the subject can use the materials easily and confidently. The materials are all well written and carefully thought out, so that the various parts reinforce each other.

The pack is designed for use by 9 to 14-year-old children and the useful teachers notes have separate guidelines for the older or younger groups within this age range, but the pack is so flexible that it could be used with children on either side of the notional age-band.

This resource pack is based on the work of *Operation Raleigh*, a four-year project consisting of a series of expeditions for young people between the ages of 17-24, involving about 50 countries and 4,000 young explorers who will take part in a continuous series of environmental and community projects under the supervision of highly-qualified "directing staff".

The video, in two parts, introduces *Operation Raleigh* itself and shows the kind of work which is carried out by the

young research teams. It then goes on to look in detail at the activities of *Venturers* in the field in the rain forests of Costa Rica, where they are making a study of the forest environments with a particular emphasis on the conservation issues.

Having covered the ground quickly and vividly in the video, the children can move to look in more detail at Costa Rica in the project book (six copies are provided), which conveys a

considerable amount of simplified but not over-simple information in its 32 pages. From here, children working as individuals or in groups can get to grips with the work-cards. (A single copy of each is provided for photocopying.) Twelve of the cards relate directly to the subjects covered by the video and the project book, seven others extend the general knowledge of a particular subject (such as trees, or the rain forest cycle) and the remaining five, while

reinforcing the subjects covered in the pack, are mainly concerned with comprehension and language.

The rain forest game, which completes the pack, is a simply-organized card and dice game for two to four players played out on a coloured sheet which represents rain forest territory. The cards dictate land hazards, water hazards and scientific discoveries along the route of the game. Simulating the events - predictable and otherwise - of a real expedition, you may be stung by electric eel, be given a local cure from the cinchona (quinine) tree, or make an underwater film of pirana fish.

Additional interest may be engendered by the bulletins which are sent to schools working with the resource pack. Classes can follow the route of the two *Operation Raleigh* ships and, updating their information regularly, they could plot the course of the expeditions.

Extra information on special topics, such as rain forest flora and fauna may be obtained for a small extra outlay. *Operation Raleigh* is also eager to set up a *Venturer* links scheme, by which a school fosters a personal link with a young *Venturer* on an expedition, exchanging letters and other information. There are also plans for some of the *Venturers* themselves to visit schools and take part in discussion groups or to advise on classroom use of the project materials. Finally, there is a competition which consists of a group essay on an imaginary trek in a rain forest, or an actual camping trip.

To follow this first resource pack, there are plans to produce at least three others, which will take among their subjects marine ecology, farming, sailing old ships and community projects such as health care, bridge building, and irrigation schemes. If the future packs are as interesting and sensibly presented as the original, teachers and pupils alike have much to look forward to.

Adventurous learning

Francesca Greenoak reviews a pack from *Operation Raleigh*

Two illustrations from the project book. Below: a *Venturer* feeds a parakeet. Above: a buff-throated woodcreeper.



Ourselves: A resource for the middle years of schooling
Price £15 within IEA, £20 outside IEA + postage

Produced by ACER (Afro-Caribbean Education Resource Project)
To School Together
An accompanying video introducing the work and materials of ACER
Price £25 + £1 p&p or to hire £5 + £1 p&p

ACER Project, Wyvil School, Wyvil Road, London SW8

The thrust of ACER's work has been to develop anti-racist strategies that might be implemented in schools at all levels to counter the insidious and structural racism which permeates British society generally and the education system in particular. The video *To School Together* sets out the case for such an intervention, moving from shots of self-help groups of black parents discussing their disillusion with the education offered their children, through a very telling montage of racist material culled from the media and familiar school literature, to eloquent analyses of the need for the creation of a truly effective, multicultural curriculum by such august figures as Paul Boateng and Stuart Hall.

Despite its rather preachy tone, it is a very impressive presentation and the argument - that anti-racism must be the ideal in the easy liberal shipbooth of multiculturalism - seems irrefutable. What is more problematic is the route by which that end can be achieved. Most of the rest of *To School Together* shows the *Ourselves* material, which is ACER's response to

that problem, being put to the test in various school situations.

Ourselves sets out to provide a structural framework on which teachers can build a course relevant to their particular circumstances. The core of the package is a class set of booklets of four short stories about the lives of children of different cultural backgrounds, who attend the same school. The stories establish the children's characters, their family and home circumstances, their relationships among themselves and their different attitudes and perceptions of life in contemporary, multicultural Britain. The intention is that out of a consideration of these children's experiences discussions about identity, culture, origins, language and history will ensue which the aware teacher will be in a position to develop in projects and exercises that spread right across the school curriculum.

With the stories come workbooks, photo packs, charts and drawing sheets for the children to complete, a comprehensive list of books and resources relevant to a multicultural approach to various subject areas, and detailed notes and suggestions for teachers on the way the material might be used and developed.

It is all very professionally made and presented, if not desperately exciting, stuff but like all such initiatives its success will depend crucially on the

energy and commitment of the teacher in opening the material out and making the most of its many possibilities.

My major criticism of the package is that it is too vaguely targeted. Labelled "a resource for the middle years of schooling", it is never clear quite what that means; the video shows the materials being used with 10-year-olds at a primary school and with 15-year-olds at the top of the secondary school. The sophistication of the language in the stories would exclude many primary-age children from reading them themselves, but most of the follow-up work

seems designed with the primary classroom in mind. Again, I suppose, it's down to teacher presentation. My other quibbles are with the extreme emphasis on appearance as a key to identity and the generally negative and shallow portrayal of white people in the materials.

But such reservations aside, these ACER materials must be welcomed as a serious and important attempt to confront and treat the cancer of racism. To be effective the ACER project demands a central commitment to anti-racist education by Government, schools and the mass of individual teachers; that is a long way off, but the introduction of materials like these will at least help to establish a climate in schools in which the issues can be raised and considered in an informed and systematic manner.

Teachers looking for a thematic resource base for interdisciplinary work will find *Indians and Pioneers* extremely useful. It combines the concerns of English, geography, history, art, even maths (that wagon has to be loaded pretty carefully in terms of weight and size), and allows them to be framed in a dramatic context.

notes
DOMESDAY
A video commemorating the 900th anniversary of the Domesday Book is now available. The programme outlines the background story to the compilation of the Domesday survey: the Norman Conquest, the crushing of English resistance and the imposition of a foreign military aristocracy. Contemporary illustrations: views of surviving architectural features and

ancient breeds of cattle are among items intended to bring to life the flavour of everyday existence among the nobility and peasantry in early medieval England. The 20-minute video complements a major exhibition, also called 'Domesday', to run from April to September 1986 at the Public Records Office, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1LR. The video is available from CFI, Vision, Chalfont Grove, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 8TN, price £27.50 (£9 to hire).

NEW TECH JOBS
Information on educational, commercial and industrial opportunities currently available in new technology is provided in the Directory of Opportunities in New

Technology, recently published by Kogan Page. It has been compiled specifically to meet the future employment needs of those qualified in such areas as computer science, electrical and electronic engineering, telecommunications, information technology etc., and provides a directory of prospective employers, lists postgraduate courses available at universities, polytechnics and colleges of higher education, and gives a selection of companies which may offer sponsorship to suitable applicants. It also includes a survey showing which specialisms are most sought by employers, and suggests some areas which are the most promising for young engineers to pursue. Price: £7.95.

Dramatic changes

by Nick Baker

Unfinished Materials
2D Drama Teaching Pack No 1: "Indians and Pioneers"
Price £12.50 (including p & p)
2D Sales, AB Printers, 33 Cannon St, Leicester.

2D, the publishers of the magazine on educational dance and drama, are starting to market resource packs which experienced drama teachers will welcome with open arms. While there is no lack of books about how to teach drama, there is a shortage of good published material that might be loosely labelled "what to do in drama". Much of what there is seems to be of the cut-and-dried variety. You do this, then you do that and finally this happens. There's an enormous reliance on role play, and not enough on imagination, emotion or investigation, a situation which *Unfinished Materials* will help to reverse.

What you get for your money is a sturdy, orange plastic wallet, brimming with documents (authentic and imaginary), diagrams, maps, pictures and photographs, in black and white and in colour. These form a beautifully-evocative and stimulating resource bank that will prepare a teacher and class for a dramatic investigation into the exploration and exploitation of the American West and its indigenous peoples.

The 24 items vary from the purely factual (the dimensions of a pioneer wagon and a challenge to fill it with items appropriate to a back-breaking journey) - to the highly emotive account of the fate, in 1911, of the last, bewildered member of the "wild" tribe. The accompanying photograph, like all the rest in the pack, is well chosen and extremely well reproduced.

The teachers' notes are predictably comprehensive, dealing with each resource and its possible function individually. What's missing, happily, is the "you've seen what it was like, and now, class, we're going to do a play - you be Sitting Bull!" approach.

The pack is unfinished in the sense that the teacher and class can use it to their own ends, and the subject matter allows for a vast number of issues to come up - prejudice, exploitation, the environment, war, as well as pre-conceptions about "cowboys and Indians". The way the resources are to be used is left up to the teacher, and there are some useful (if over-theoretical) suggestions included.

This sounds like an exciting new resource for schools within striking distance of London, particularly those where world history syllabuses are followed. The documents are apparently by no means all Euro-centric, since the British always

Prestel and The Times Network for Schools (TINS) offer schools and colleges access to information on viewdata. However, the cost of access over the phone can prove expensive even when the pages viewed are free.

It is now possible to create local viewdata systems using software running on microcomputers. Such software enables an "in-house" viewdata system to be set up for a particular institution and when used in conjunction with a modem, information can also be available to outside enquiries from, for example, potential students or colleagues in other institutions. Distance learning students could also be given access to course material via their phones and micros at home.

One example of a local viewdata package is *Communitel* which runs on the BBC model B. The viewdata editor allows frames (screensful) of information to be created and then linked together so that information on a certain subject can be accessed by single key operations of the keyboard. The convention is that viewdata systems start at page 0. This may be the main "Menu" and from here it is possible to select a number of routes into the database. Each frame is set up so that the user can either go on to the next frame in that sequence or get back to a menu which means she can quickly get into another part of the database without having to go through a whole series of frames. Frames of information on a particular subject go to make up a page and a page can consist of up to 10 frames.

Used as an editor, *Communitel* allows insertion and deletion of characters and lines. However, there is no wordwrap (adjusting the spaces between words so that all lines begin and end with complete words) so bits of words may start on one line and then continue to the next. However, this function is entirely in keeping with commercial viewdata systems such as Prestel, where spaces cost money to



Local viewdata

by Howard Burton

transmit and wordwrapping is not used. There is some skill required in setting out a screen of information, not least in achieving a standard form of layout from page to page.

Each frame allows 22 lines of information but anyone confronted with a screen full of dense type is going to be put off reading it, especially if the screen's resolution is not good. There is the option of printing frames out on paper and this is very useful for overleaf editing and establishing a uniformity of presentation.

As with all databases, planning the

whole thing out beforehand saves a lot of headache later on. For example, if using a 40-track single sided disc the user is limited to 96 frames of information. It is extremely frustrating to be in the middle of a sequence of frames and be suddenly told there is no more room on the disc.

Does *Communitel* have a role to play on an every day basis in the classroom apart from its use as an introduction to viewdata? When *Communitel* arrived at South Bristol I became interested in using it as a way of giving A level biology students

access to answers for questions posed in their study guide, which they use as part of a resource-based approach to their learning of biology. It allows them to check their answers against mine without constant referral to the teacher.

One limitation is the rudimentary graphics: any information which is in the form of a diagram or drawing must be presented elsewhere. In fact this is not a problem. The student is directed by a frame in the viewdata to a nearby resources box, where the appropriate drawing or diagram is located.

Once set up with the correct routings and instructions, it is extremely easy to use. The skill in its use is the ability to get to a particular piece of information by the shortest possible route. A truer simulation of a commercial system is achieved if the information is stored on hard disc and accessed through a local network. This removes the problem of having to swap floppy discs if students want access to information from different parts of the course.

It would be possible to simply write the answers into a file which could then be made available in the classroom. This was tried, but we found that the file kept getting lost in the classroom. A computer on a trolley is not so easy to lose. One student commented that it was a non-threatening way of learning his way round the keyboard. I also suspect that an answer on a screen has more credibility than one simply written on paper!

Communitel Level 1 (two software discs which allow the user to create stand-alone systems on the BBC) costs £55 exclusive of VAT and p&p. Other systems are available, including one based on a modem which would give the user access to Prestel as well. Further details from *Communitel*, 189 Freston Road, London W10 6TH.

Howard Burton is Resources Officer at South Bristol Technical College.

Indian sources

A Brief Guide for Teachers
India Office Library and Records
Price £2.75

Available from IOLR Education Service, 197 Blackfriars Rd, London, SE1

The India Office Library and Records contains a wealth of source material relating not just to the sub-continent but to surrounding Asian countries as well. This booklet is part of an initiative by the IOLR's recently-established Education Service to promote the use of these sources in schools. It contains a brief general description of what's available, and suggestions about how to help students choose project areas and prepare for a visit to the archive to use the primary material first hand.

This sounds like an exciting new resource for schools within striking distance of London, particularly those where world history syllabuses are followed. The documents are apparently by no means all Euro-centric, since the British always

emphasized the importance of establishing Indian feeling. But even if you feel that for all their love affair with India the British never did much more than scrape the surface, this must still be the finest Indian archive in Europe.

The rest of the booklet contains a description of seven suggested topics and a few extracts from sources relating to them. Teachers who haven't yet fallen under the spell of Indian history, or who are seeking ways of enthralling their students with it, can't do better than to dip in here. As well as the more obvious topics such as Gandhi, the Amritsar Massacre and the 1857 Rebellion, there are fascinating sources relating to Indian soldiers who fought in the First World War, and to Indians in Britain, from lascars to princes (three Indian immigrants had become MPs for English constituencies by 1924).

This is certainly something to follow up. It could be useful not just for history but for many aspects of multicultural education too.

Jessica Saraga



The Village of Eddington
Curriculum extension materials for 9 to 13-year-olds
Price £12.95 + VAT
Learning Development Aids, Duke Street, Walsby, Cambridgeshire

It is rare and welcome to find genuine enrichment material designed for the more able child in a normal classroom with a normal teacher. *The Village of Eddington* was put together and child-tested by four chalk-face teachers. Initially they had been inspired by the

Schools Council Gifted Children Project to try and do something about their brighter pupils, who they felt were not getting sufficient intellectual challenge. This took them into working out their own materials, which led to eventual publication of a series of resource materials and extension work. Their first pack on Motorways

has won a prize; this is their second, and the third is expected soon.

The pack is made up of 12 activity cards about an imaginary village, about a century ago. The children are expected to flesh out the introductory stories about the villagers and their way of life. Most particularly, they have to use their study and library

skills, exercise their imaginations, and think it all through carefully before communicating their deliberations both verbally and diagrammatically. They can work in groups or individually.

The challenging and interesting material is aimed at helping children

Familiar ideas

Ideas in English
Me, Myself, I
Pupil's book £3.25; teacher's resource book £12.50

Away from Home
Pupil's book £3.25; teacher's resource book £12.50

Ideas in English Resourcecards
Price £5.50

Mary Glasgow Publications Ltd, 140 Kensington Church Street, London

At one time only primary reading schemes arrived in packs, box-loads of flashcards, alphabet games, instruction books and the like, which took as long as the average hi-fi system to master and assemble. Now, it seems, even an ordinary secondary school English course has to come in its form.

Ideas in English, from Mary Glasgow Publications, is one of the latest. It might look like a couple of textbooks with associated teacher's notes, but that is apparently purely accidental. According to the publicity blurb, it is nothing less than "a unique new resource series".

Wrong. Unique it might be - in the way that any new book is unique - but, like so many of the offerings on a bookseller's shelves, it actually does little more than re-hash familiar ideas.

There is nothing radically new about the content of the first two pupil's books. (A third, *Worlds Apart*, is due to appear this spring.) Both *Me, Myself, I* and *Away from Home* are intended for the bottom two years of secondary schools and cover topics already well served by many existing English courses designed for this age group. Early memories, Family Life, Friends and Enemies in *Me, Myself, I*; School, Being Alone and The Future in *Away from Home*.

They even include a fair amount of familiar material. There are prose extracts from works by Bernard Ashley, Clive James (*Unreliable Memoirs*), Jan Mark, Betsy Byars (*The Eighteenth Emergency*) and Michael Rosen among others, and inevitably a page or so from Barry Hines's *A Kestrel for a Knave*.

There are three points in their favour, however. Both books include generous selections of children's writing; their lay-out is good, if unexciting, with black-and-white line drawings or photographs on almost every page - and there is not so much as a single question or "suggestion for follow-up work" in either book.

All that has been properly relegated to the teacher's resource books where, once one has got the hang of the system, everything is neatly cross-referenced and there are sufficient work suggestions for even the laziest teacher. Almost justifying their price, the resource books also contain ready-prepared workcard masters. All designed on a standard A4 format, they are intended to be photocopied and dished out as class sets after the appropriate extract from the pupil's book has been read. They might be working from "a unique new resource series", but classes will still find themselves faced by considerable amounts of written work.

The separate set of "Resourcecards" is primarily designed for the teacher's own use. It includes photocopyable departmental record cards, vocabulary books, letter blanks, assignment sheets and display cards on library skills. There is even a selection of boldly-lettered labels for labelling up the English department bookshelves. Now they really might be useful - they might even be unique.

Hugh David

Nuclear facts and fantasies

Nuclear Issues in Education: A Teaching Guide.

Price £4.95.
Newcastle Education Committee,
Pendower Hall Teachers' Centre,
West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 6PP.

Kelth Joseph has called for less emphasis on social issues and more on the acquisition of facts. Definitely, as it turns its attention to the most important social issue in the world today, this teaching pack ably demonstrates how facts alone do not suffice.

BNF (British Nuclear Fuels), UKAEA (United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority) and CEGB (Central Electricity Generating Board) have a great mass of expensively-produced, freely-available fact sheets and resources. *Nuclear Issues in Education* shows how information can be tailored to become seriously misleading: acquisition of facts is not a priority here, rather a learning of intellectual skills, which can be used to discriminate truth from part-truth and propaganda, and to make intelligent judgements.

Nuclear Issues was compiled by a working party which represented many different shades of political opinion. It makes reference not only to the standard sources of information but discloses several interesting and unusual approaches to the subject, such as a set of slides about the effects of nuclear weapons, designed primarily for trainee doctors and nurses. Guidance is given on the nature of all the materials suggested; the principle is always to inform not to terrify the pupils. A description and evaluation of books and other resources selected from several points along the political spectrum is combined with suggested topics for work and some sensitive teaching guidelines.

Intended for children of 14 years upward, the attitude here to this most controversial and emotive of subjects is always thoughtful rather than sensational. The pack encourages a cross-curricular approach, and suggests that teachers attach their own materials in the loose-leaf binder, so that key articles, such as Doris Lessing's provocative justification of civil defence or Martin Amis's brilliant analysis of the nuclear debate, can be made part of classroom discussion.

Francesca Greenoak



develop enquiring minds. It calls on a broad range of abilities such as practising old skills like embroidery as a sampler, or slipping into the minds of the people of the time by writing in their language and cooking their recipes. A list of reference books is provided.

So often children who finish their work ahead of the class, either wait for the rest or are simply given more of the same. Here is an opportunity to try something new, with or without teacher help. It might also inspire more teachers to try their hands

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Picaresque

Hugh David on a children's serial set in the London of the 1870s

CHILDREN'S TELEVISION
The December Rose
BBC1, Wednesdays, 5.00pm.

Take the happy notion of a children's drama series set in and around Thames barges, graft on to it the idea of asking novelist Leon Garfield to write the script and, after a couple of years' work and a sensible co-production deal, you come up with something like *The December Rose*.

The BBC's major children's drama of the year explores territory already familiar to readers of Leon Garfield's

fiction, although surprisingly it is his first original screenplay. We are in the London of the 1870s, down Blackfriars way, on the river. A cast of picaresque irregulars quaff ale at The Jolly Barge-man. Horse-buses clomp past, and in the narrow gas-lit alleys a chimney-sweep's boy is running for his life, his bare feet pattering over the cobbles. It's *Water Babies* country (Charles Kingsley's novel first appeared in 1863) for, inevitably, young Absalom Brown, the runaway, is "an orphan boy, a walf, 'uman driftwood, you might say". But, Leon Garfield being Leon Garfield, this is merely the start.

Known as Barnacle - "on account of 'is amazin' powers of holdin' on" - the lad just happens to be holdin' on to a locket he picked up at the home of Lord Hobart, and Lord Hobart and Inspector Creaker of Scotland Yard as well as several other unsavoury characters are very anxious to get it back. In the wrong hands, as Sherlock Holmes (first encountered in 1887) might have said, it could seriously compromise some of the highest families in the land.

"Black as yer 'at" at the beginning of the first episode, Absalom is taken in and bathed by Tom Gosling, a bargee, but even on the water he is still threatened. According to executive producer Paul Stone, *The December Rose* goes on to examine corruption in high places. "So it's a sort of Junior *Dead Head?*" asked a national newspaper journalist at the preview. Well, no; there isn't the violence and, being a mere slip of a lad, Barnacle doesn't cling to naked blondes.

On the other hand the serial does boast a gallery of unforgettable, almost Dickensian characters: Inspector Creaker (Ian Hogg), Tom the big-hearted bargee (Tony Haygarth) and his rival, the redoubtable Mrs McDipper who owns another barge, The Midway Queen. Beautifully filmed, and directed by Renny Rye, who was also in charge of the BBC's *Box of Delights*, it is a delight in itself to watch. The atmospheric night shots at the beginning of the first episode set the tone. Thereafter, the pictures are completely successful - more so, even the BBC are admitting, than their previous adaptation of *Smith* - in bringing Leon Garfield's world to the screen. The script too allows his tone to come through. "Where there's chimneys, there has to be boys to sweep them," wheezes Barnacle's employer at one point... and where there's children, there's plenty who are going to lap up every last minute of *The December Rose*.

Work in all its variety

SCHOOL RADIO
Rehearsing for Work (BTEC)
BBC Radio 4 VHF/FM
March 3-5

Rehearsing for Work (BTEC) is all about work experience. It has a wider relevance than the title implies and could, with profit, be used by any 15 to 17-year-olds finishing secondary education or following post-16 courses.

This year's series consists of five 20 minute programmes. The first is for teachers on how to use the series. Programme two prepares students for work experience placements and looks at the organizational problems. Programme three examines the first few days of work experience, considers how young people might best find their feet and looks at how teachers might best enable them to do so.

Programme four concentrates on the problems and examines how to handle them, while the final programme underlines the fact that reflection and evaluation are crucial to any learning experience. The BBC have promised a supplementary programme for 1987 to cover work experience in classroom simulation.

The teachers' notes and the programmes together form a comprehensive work experience guide to ease the way into what is described as "perhaps the biggest learning experience youngsters ever have". Throughout the programmes, teachers are encouraged to stop and discuss with the class what they have just heard. The notes not only give considerable additional

information, but also suggest student exercises and options for further activity, thereby making the best possible use of a broadcast resource.

It is claimed that the jobs covered in the series include "work in all its variety". Placements covered range from a factory making exhausts and other components, to a job at the BBC. There was, I confess, a brief interlude when I thought that sponsored radio had arrived, such was the enthusiasm expressed by a Kenworthy Fried Chicken manager in swearing his young charge to secrecy over the finger lickin' herbs and spices. I need not have worried; the next stop was a placement in a chicken slaughter house. All thought of succulent chicken vanished instantly.

Strangely though, the chicken's death row was one of the cheeriest places in town. "Do you know the girls on giblets?" asks a friendly woman. Howls of laughter from the assembled mums, grannies and girls on the production line follow the instruction to the doubtless slightly bemused adolescent. "Just pick the giblets up and stuff them in the chicken!"

Overall the series provides a valuable resource for those concerned with work experience in the broadest sense, including not only transferrable skills common to a wide range of jobs or to a particular job or occupational category, but also to a whole range of personal and interpersonal skills too. If young people do rehearse for work in this thoroughly practical way, they will, with the help of their teachers, be better fitted to move on from the rehearsal to the real performance.

Jean Sargeant

Nature reserves

Francesca Greenoak looks at this year's Worldwide season on Channel 4

Channel 4's backlog, like that of a good book publisher, has begun to give it a sense of identity - a strong base to work from, as well as a reservoir from which to draw classics. This year's Worldwide season looks, if anything, better than before. Natural history films have entered an era characterized by complacency and the rehearsal of well-worn formulas, but the C4 menu of previous favourites and new programmes sets up a keen sense of anticipation.

This coming season offers films which are prepared to make demands on the intelligence as well as a capacity for wonder, and there are some which are not afraid to be challenging. *African Hunters*, bound to raise controversy, examines big game hunting in Zimbabwe, a bloody pursuit which has taken on an economic significance. *Man-Made Famine* promises us a long-overdue study of the women's part in African agriculture, thus breaking the tradition of showing women tilling the fields while the commentary explains "the farmer, he..." Also in the

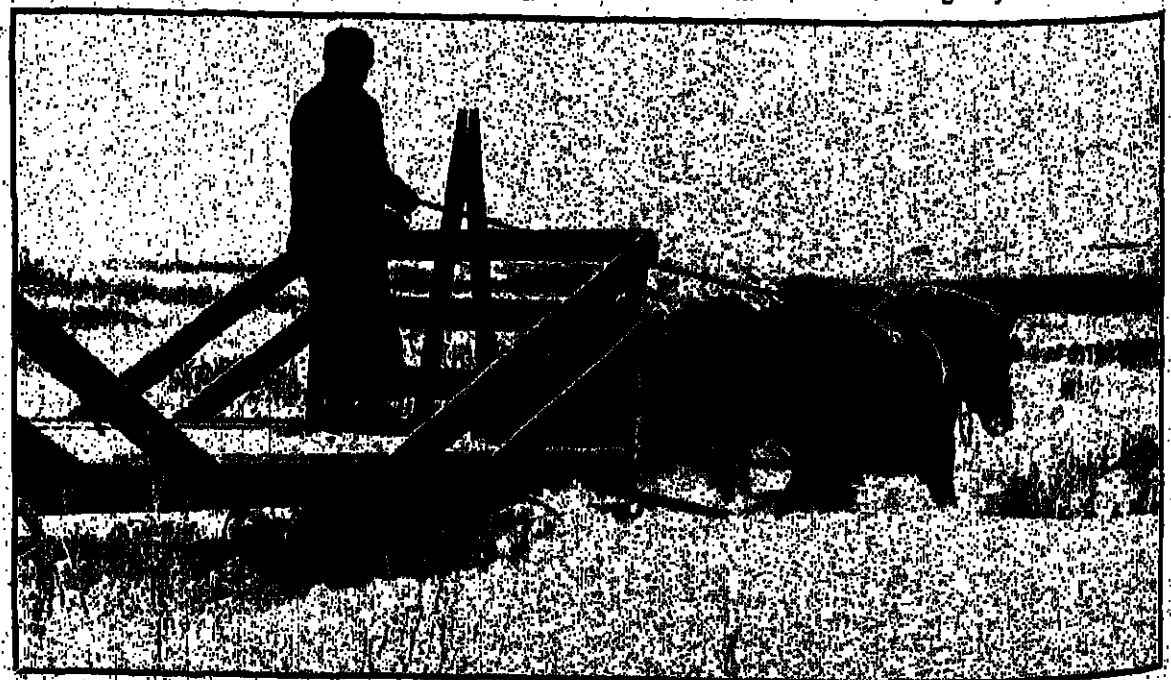
African group, to be screened on Sunday evenings through May, I am glad to see a restowing of Ian Bodenham's memorable film about Kilimanjaro.

While not especially a Gerry/Lea Durrell fan, I am so curious about the landscapes and natural history of Russia that I shall miss none of their 13-part series, *Durrell in Russia*. The same goes for *The Lords of Hokkaido*, which promises to tell as much about the country of Japan's northernmost island as about its animal subjects, a family of foxes.

These Japanese foxes are, in fact, the same species as those which live in Western Europe, but since no social prestige attaches to the ritual killing of them they are regarded in a less prejudiced light, and valued by farmers for the part they play in keeping down the rat population. The main strength of C4's attitude to the environment is that it comprehends that plants, creatures and people live interactively inside a landscape and that to isolate any element is irrelevant.

One of the high points of the last Worldwide season was the extraordinary film *QAF*, a compellingly beautiful homage to the volcano of that name, made by Islamic film makers. In June this year, another remarkable natural phenomenon has a film devoted to it: *The Northern Lights*.

It is unfortunately a film cliché that all the best natural history happens abroad, but on home ground there is a celebration of Silbury and Avebury. Scott's 40-year passion for birds. Roaming the borders again, in four programmes to be shown in June, Molyn Bragg explores the countryside of the north-eastern counties. A Saturday magazine programme called them *Birds of Britain* officers, among other things, a portrait of the last surviving swanery at Abbotsbury - are these among the last lead-free swans in Britain? Finally, loud cheers that the excellent *Nature in Focus*, one of the best natural history series for younger people ever made, is returning to our screens during May and June.



1985 was an auspicious year for British films. Suddenly, almost overnight it seemed, after years of dwindling cinema audiences and badly depressed finances, the industry was given leave to slap itself on the back and celebrate: 50 years of the National Film Archive, 60 years of the Film Society, certainly the biggest if not the best London Film Festival so far. And for the first time the cinema arts were accorded the distinction of being ticked and franked and sent all over the world as a set of postage stamps.

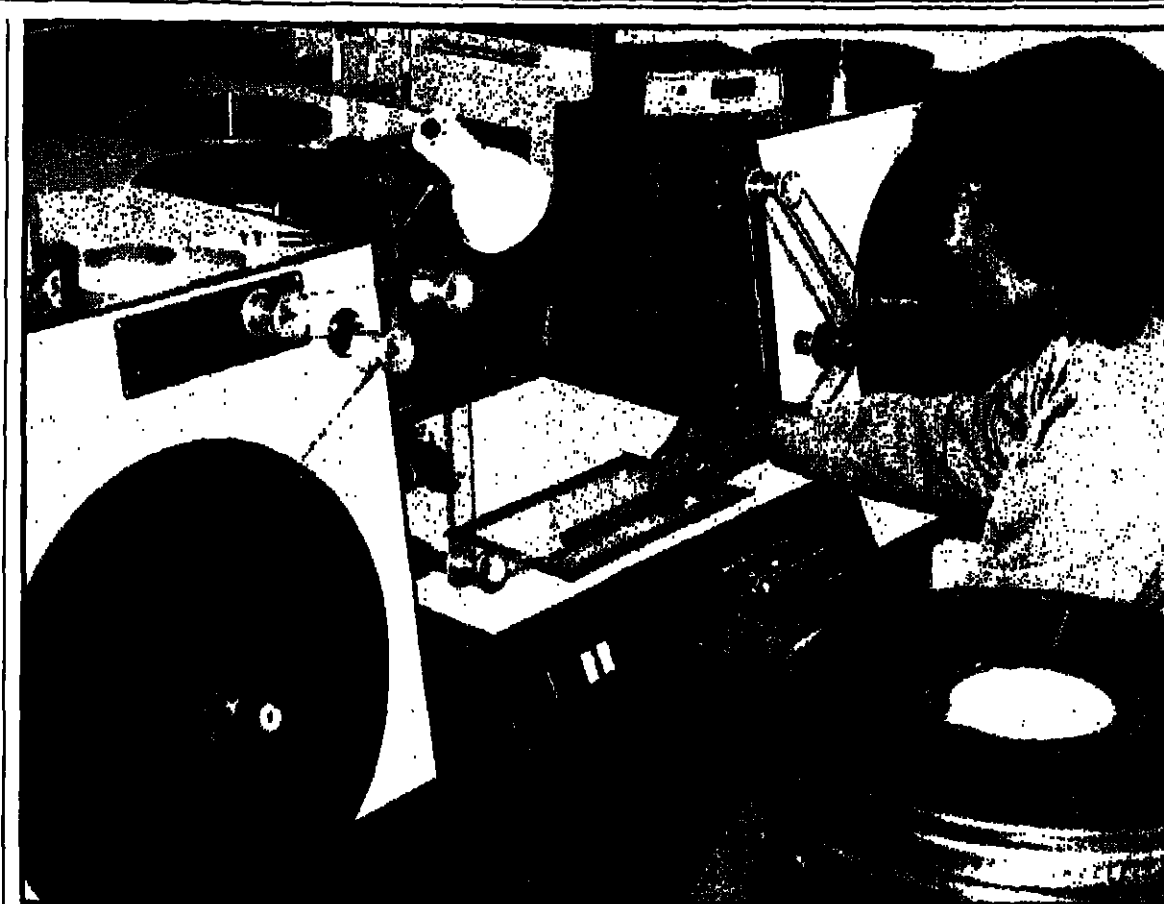
For the National Film Archive at least, 1986 looks to be an even more strenuous year. Alongside plans to step up their rate of urgent copying and preservation of old film, work is well under way on a brand new £4m conservation centre at Berkhamstead in Hertfordshire which will house, under one roof, all the laboratories and stores currently scattered around the home counties in Thirties prefabs. The archive's grant has been at a cash standstill for many years - dropped considerably in real terms - and such a project would have been unthinkable but for the philanthropy of the legendary tycoon and film enthusiast, J Paul Getty Jr, who has donated £2.4m.

Since the early days the film archive movement has relied heavily on the generosity and generosity of individuals rather than on public support. In 1935, not 10 years after the first "Talkies", it was a young employee of the new British Film Institute, the late Ernest Lindgren OBE, who had the happy foresight to start a small collection of "old" footage, to begin to preserve, in effect, the culture which was to dominate our times to an extent few could then predict.

The archive is now an expanding library of over 240,000 titles - from the earliest, flickering fragments of Queen Victoria's Jubilee to last night's party political broadcast. Its main purpose is still the one originally spelled out in 1935: to acquire and preserve, and make permanently available for study and research, a growing national collection of films and television programmes which have lasting artistic, historical or scientific value.

As curator David Francis never tires of pointing out, the question of "value" is endlessly fraught, for few archivists are forced to work so close to the point of creation. "Because of its commercial aspect film has always held a tricky position in the arts world, but it's essential that we perceive film as our Heritage... the heritage of the 20th century. And it's for us to decide now to preserve what will be revealing historical documents tomorrow. If we don't, great chunks of our culture may be lost."

Too much valuable material has been lost already for David Francis to take his responsibilities lightly. Despite the archivists' early efforts, a shocking 80 per cent of all pre-1926 silent films have disappeared. And even now, the acquisition of new box office films depends precariously on voluntary donation by the film company, which may be an organization as



A heritage in rusty cans

Jenny Gilbert visits the National Film Archive

large and nebulous as Coca Cola. The director himself does not own his film and has no control over his product.

A more pressing problem for the archive is the rapid deterioration of nitrate film, the type used from the first experiments in the 1890s right up to 1951. Nitrate film's alarming ability to self-destruct - by shrinking, rotting, and then possibly bursting into flames - has been known for some time, but the process is impossible to halt. The only solution is to copy every inch of every reel onto modern safety film, a tri-acetate base which Kodak assures will last several hundred years.

Duplication is time-consuming and labour-intensive, as the old nitrate footage often has to be restored before it can run smoothly on the copying machines. The archive's team of nimble-fingered local women sit all day replacing damaged sprocket holes with minute pieces of splicing tape. In an adjoining building, well supplied with fire extinguishers, a backlog of rusty cans are piled waiting to be checked for signs of advanced decay ("if it's got to the dangerous stage it smells of old camembert").

A new batch has just arrived from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Thirties vintage, bearing foxed labels reading "Cheesemaking at Home" and "Sugar Beet in Germany", the latest of a glut of old reels donated willingly to the archive on grounds of safety and historical preservation. Since 1976 the rate of duplication has been five million feet a year; once installed in the new centre they hope to process 10 million feet annually, in order to have everything on safety film by the year 2000.

The new J Paul Getty Jr Conservation Centre (the name was the archive's idea, not his) will provide sealed stores for unstable nitrate still waiting to be copied, and enormous warehouses for the permanent storage of safe stock. The first of three planned already holds 220,000 reels, accessible only by means of hydraulic lift trucks which can scale the 40 feet of industrial shelving. "Librarians" wear hard hats at all times.

The television preservation operation is taken equally seriously. Both ITV and Channel 4 have agreed to pay a large annual sum to have selected

programmes "put down" on videotape for posterity; the archive already records all party conferences, features which constitute "a social document", and the first episode of any serial. Every so often they record a whole night's television. As I stood with the curator in the dust-free "clean area" where the stock is recorded off-air, game shows flickered on three separate monitors. Here was afternoon culture of the Eighties. David Francis shrugs: "If a cultural archive is to be of any use to future historians it has to show the best and the worst. Generations hence can do with this what they will, but at least we've done our bit."

Access to the National Film Archive is limited at present to bona fide students and researchers, although there are plans to offer the service to the general public in the near future. Supervised viewings take place at the BFI, 81 Dean Street, London W1 (ring 437 4355 for bookings). Charges range from £2.50 to £15 per title. Details of the BFI's education materials are available from the same address.

Mixed messages

Lost Magic Kingdoms and Six Paper Moons
Museum of Mankind.

At last a museum has brought together a living artist and the artifacts in its collections. Eduardo Paolozzi has rummaged through the vast stores of the Ethnography Department of the British Museum (now the Museum of Mankind) and juxtaposed items from them with his own work, with plastic insects and squashed coke cans, with tallers' dummies and his own notebook.

Many art books talk of the influences of primitive art on Surrealism. Here, and in the accompanying book (£6.50 from Museum bookshop), you can see for yourself how the unselfconscious use of objects in non-European countries (for example the electric light bulb converted into an oil lamp when the newly installed electricity gives out), matches the Surrealist inventiveness; how different ideas about form and function - armour made from fish scales - make us reappraise our own; and most of all, perhaps, how

some objects, the grenade launcher and the book of native costumes, the West African trading screen and a bowl of plastic fruit, give off the same message (in this case, the appropriation of commodities by colonialist capitalism) in their different idioms. In his brightly dramatic collections of shadow puppets or masks, Paolozzi has made something delightful out of the usual staid museum parade of exotics. In other exhibits he has recreated the over-crowded shelves of old-fashioned museum displays, where the rows of tools and instruments, of pipes and drums of dolls and fetishes are here set off by piles of copulating plastic cockroaches, by Paolozzi's wooden constructions or joke tape-player-cum-guitar, with heads made out of wax and metal and mannequin's plaster hands holding potter's tools. The museum-goer's earnest quest for information is transmuted back into the artist's eye, sees strings of old light bulbs garlanding a house, ivory statues or currency bars all as *objets trouvés* on the streets of time and space.

Victoria Neumark

TIE ties

Inside Out
Northampton Royal Theatre in Education.
(Tel: 0604 27566)
Missing Links
Watford Palace Theatre in Education.
(Tel: 0923 33439)

These programmes have three things in common: strong, simple acting, a genuine faith in their young clientele's ability to think through difficult issues, and proximity to the M1. Apart from that, they couldn't be more different.

Northampton Royal TIE starts its upper secondary and further education programmes with a straight performance piece, *Inside Out*, about a mum in dire straits who is imprisoned for shoplifting, and her teenage daughter's reaction. It's a very believable story, made more so by the strength and conviction of the four actresses. Only the occasional heavy-handed imagery jars - stories of trapped birds and caged battery fowl keep cropping up. Despite - or perhaps as a result of - some frenetic doubling with distraught daughter and cold prison officer played by one actress, warm teacher and batty inmate by another - the play can't fail to grip. It brooks no argument, either. The vast majority of women in jail are awaiting trial for petty crimes, and shouldn't be there at all. There's no moral or financial sense to it, says the play, through a veil of tears and a little humour.

In the ensuing workshop, involving students of catering, child care, social work and drama at Northampton College of Further Education, the participants are encouraged to create three characters, using the actresses as bases. They build, through a series of clever and unobtrusive TIE techniques, to imagine three very different women or men, for three very different crimes the details of which aren't made known. The women are visited by relations, social workers, prison chaplains, even journalists (played by students in role) and gradually we find out about the women as people rather than criminals. There's a mighty educational sting in the tail, though. Having found out the nature of the women's crimes, we have to sentence them. Who is more dangerous to society, the joyriding boogaloo or the woman with a knife in her handbag, pleading defence against racial attack as her motive for manslaughter? How much does society need protecting against "dangerous" women? I'm glad I don't have to decide.

Twenty miles down the motorway, Watford Palace TIE is dealing with a conflict of social values, with some under-18s. The issues are no less contentious than women in prison, and a good deal more intellectually demanding: Which is more valuable to mankind, the values of culture and human identity, or those of scientific development? *The Missing Link* deals with problems of communication and does some language development on the way, but its focus is on the culture vs science argument, symbolized by two unremarkable bits of stone, fragments of meteorite that landed on the island of Rejse centuries ago.

The visiting professor (a popular TIE figure) touring schools with an exhibition about Rejse naturally wants to keep the stones for scientific examination. But to the islanders who have managed to get to Britain by boat, the stones and their story are the key to their culture and religion. The wholly fantastic story is totally absorbing for the seven-year-olds left, after various bits of participation and information sharing, to decide who should have the stones. The children's individual and group contributions are genuinely valued by the team from Watford Palace throughout the half-day session. At one point, the professor's assistant has to present, with the aid of a small group of pupils, an illustrated list of "things we wouldn't want taken away from us". The class teacher was astonished at the personal details in the list: "She's learnt an enormous amount about my class in that short time", whispers the teacher involuntarily. You couldn't give a TIE person a more pleasing compliment.

Nick Baker

4 Times Available For Recording From Sunday 2nd March 1986
Approximate Transmission Times.

Sunday 10th March 2.00pm PBS's Programme, For Code B 5.00pm The Trustees Programme, For Code F Monday 10th March 2.00pm Living Body: Science In The Future - Report, For Code E 2.00pm Every Woman Tells A Story - Opening Up The Walls, For Code C Tuesday 11th March 1.00pm Yeha Adams, For Code B Wednesday 12th March 2.00pm PBS's Report, For Code B	Friday 21st March 1.00pm Night to Reply, For Code A 2.00pm A Work In Progress, For Code E 10.00pm Abba's Men - And Women - Repeat, For Code D For more information contact: GUILD LICENSING 8 Boyce Road, Peterborough PE1 5YB (0733) 315315 Late Charges (0733) 312152
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Education Committee
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 Blacon, Chester CH1 4NF
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 Applications to the Headmaster at the above mentioned school closing date 15th April 1986. 100096

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Group 2, Ages 5-9. Number on Roll: 67

The school is situated in the small village of Ilketshall St Lawrence, approximately 3 miles from the thriving market town of Halesworth.

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Group 2, Ages 5-9. Number on Roll: 76

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Further details and application forms are available from the County Education Officer, St Andrew House, County Hall, Ipswich IP4 1LJ (see please), and completed forms should be returned by 28th March 1986.



Suffolk County Council

SOUTHERN AREA

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HEADTEACHER

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Closing date 7th April 1986.

west sussex

County of Cleveland

HOLY TRINITY C OF E (Aided) JUNIOR SCHOOL

Upsall Grove, Stockton, Cleveland TS19 7QU

Head Teacher (Group 5)

Required for September, 1986, for this junior school serving a well established residential area of West Stockton. Applicants should be practising Communicant members of the Church of England. Application forms and further details obtainable from and returnable to the Correspondent Governor, Rev. P. Chappell, 4 Greyhound Close, Harburn, Stockton, Cleveland (Telephone Stockton 585748) by 9th April, 1986. Financial assistance with household removal expenses may be available in approved cases.

County of Cleveland

Leicestershire HEADSHIP

Oakham English Martyrs' R.C. (Aided) Primary School Group 1

Head required September 1986 for this well-resourced school in a modern building in a small, rural, market town. Applicants must be practising Roman Catholics. Approximately 40 on roll (aged 5-11).

Application forms and further details from Director of Education, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire LE3 0RF (SAE please) to whom applications should be returned by 1st April 1986.

County of Cleveland

PRIMARY HEADSHIPS continued

HILLINGDON LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON

ST. WITHUN WELLS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Middlesex HA4 9NS.
Tel: 01-845 3604

Required for September 1986.

HEADTEACHER (GROUP IV)
Applications are invited for suitable experienced teachers who should be committed, practising Roman Catholics, and holders of the Catholic Certificate. The post falls vacant due to retirement.

Application forms obtainable from Director of Education, Civic Centre, Uxbridge UB8 3UW on receipt of SAE to be returned to the County Education Officer, Southwark House, 21 Southwark, London SE1 1SU. Closing date: 31 March 1986.

Outer London Allowance payable. (08318) 110010

HAMPSHIRE LONDON COUNTY JUNIOR SCHOOL

Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire SN4 4JH. Headteacher required September 1986 for this Group 4 school.

Further details and application forms available from the Area Education Officer, Southwark House, 21 Southwark, London SE1 1SU. Closing date for completed application forms: 17th April 1986. 110010

HAMPSHIRE LONDON COUNTY JUNIOR SCHOOL

Bude Lane, Bordon GU35 0JB. Headteacher required September 1986 for this Group 4 school.

Further details and application forms available from Area Education Officer, Southwark House, 21 Southwark, London SE1 1SU. Closing date for completed application forms: 17th April 1986. 110010

HAMPSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ADVISER FOR PRIMARY

SOLVAY HEADTEACHER
Group 8 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**HEREFORD
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E. FIRST SCHOOL
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15, THE SQUARE, MIDTLE SCHOOL
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For September, on
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Maths and Science would be
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Applications by telephone
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There is an Equal Oppor
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KIRKLEES
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
DIRECTORATE OF
EDUCATION SERVICES
HINKY JUNIOR SCHOOL,
HINKY ROAD, FORTUNE
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An equal opportunity

EXTRA

Paul is seven. He is severely handicapped, he cannot walk, his receptive language age is three and a half and he has only four or five intelligible words. As music therapist Liz Smith took up her guitar to start singing, his face lit up, obviously excited by the anticipation of another music therapy session. The children took turns to play a variety of instruments - drum, shaker and bells - and appeared to listen to each other. Paul clapping when one even more handicapped child succeeded in banging a drum. They were able to tell each other to stop playing at the right moment, by hand movement if not by speech. By the end of the 15-minute session the children looked far more alert and aware; it had obviously been fun and there was a sense of achievement.

Paul is one of 57 (from 2 to 19-year-old) pupils with severe learning difficulties and physical handicaps at Tye Green School, Harlow. The headmistress, Sally Wheelock, fought for a year to have a music therapist on her staff. This is Liz Smith's first job, which she would not have got if she had not had a teacher's certificate as well as being a qualified music therapist. Liz comments that improvisational skills are vital and that often these are not developed on degree courses unless one is studying composition or jazz. Nevertheless, Liz points out that a music therapist works as part of the para-medical and educational team and in full consultation with them.

The importance of music therapy in a child's development is slowly becoming accepted. An increasing number of education authorities, as well as health authorities, are prepared to employ therapists. Music therapy now has a career and grading structure within the NHS. Since anyone can set up as a music therapist an authority would be wise to check a particular therapist's qualifications by contacting the Association of Professional Music Therapists (Steve Dunschke, Music Therapy Dept, St Lawrence's Hospital, Coulsdon Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5YA). The Association has 170 members, 23 of whom work full or part-time in schools.

Since 1958 when Juliette Alvin started the British Society for Music Therapy, interest has steadily grown. There are now three full-time postgraduate music therapy courses. The first started in 1968 at the Guildhall School of Music. In 1974 Paul Nordoff and Clive Robbins began their courses, out of which grew the Nordoff-Robbins centre in North London, now directed by Sybil Beresford-Pearce. This centre performs a variety of functions, including weekly treatment of handicapped children, running the postgraduate course validated by the City University and providing a meeting place for



Therapist Liz Smith gives a music lesson to Jane Hughes at Tye Green School, Harlow.

At the beat of the drum

Peta Levi reports on the latest developments in music therapy

Seminars for professional music therapists. The third course started five years ago at Southlands College, Southampton; last year 70 people applied for 10 places.

Professor Malcolm Troup, head of the City University's music department has long been interested in music therapy. It is largely due to him that the University established, in 1980, Britain's first music therapy fellowship. The University also provides a one-year option in music therapy for undergraduates, which is increasingly popular.

Dr Leslie Bunt, holder of Britain's first music therapy PhD, has set up a unique music therapy centre at the Brenty Hospital, Bristol. Within three years the Bristol Centre has built up a team of five music therapists who provide a service for the Avon area, working mainly with the NHS, i.e., and the social services and covering groups, hospitals and sometimes schools, but also with the community at large. The therapists hold sessions in and out of the centre and would welcome extending music therapy to children who are not in special schools.

Bunt's definition of music therapy is that a "music therapist, who is a trained musician, uses his or her musical skills in helping people suffering from a wide range of handicaps and disabilities; but a music therapist cannot cure, only ameliorate and develop." A pioneer of music therapy in schools, Angela Fenwick, who in 1976 became the first music therapist to be employed by Birmingham Education Authority, holds that a music therapist, in contrast to a music teacher working in "special education, identifies children who need help and through musical links and by using music as a therapeutic tool, helps them in many different ways, which may have nothing to do with music. She believes that, by contrast, a music teacher concentrates on the musical abilities that children have and how these can be fully developed.

Angela Fenwick now has a team of three, which regularly visits 16 special schools and provides an advisory service, with in-service training, for the remaining 24. The team also links with special units in mainstream schools, which she sees as an exciting development. She comments: "The aim of a music

therapist is to put the child's problem into a musical context. Ideally at an individual session, and thus build up a relationship. Music reveals the inner conflicts in a person and those who cannot control the crescendos and pace of music are unlikely to be able to control themselves. We observe the way children handle instruments and order their music-making, the relationship between themselves and them and whether they can listen and join in." This approach has been tried successfully with elective mutes and autistic children.

Education authorities are beginning to use music therapists in a variety of ways. In Wolverhampton there is one music therapist in a team of six musicians working in special schools while in Oxfordshire Auriel Warwick (who is Chairman of the British Society for Music Therapists) has just been appointed advisory teacher for music with children with special needs. John Bean, the peripatetic music therapist for Leicestershire (based at the Leicester School of Music), tells me he would like a team of 10 music therapists. He covers 26 special schools, so concentrates on visiting two regularly, giving in-service training in the rest to stimulate among teachers an awareness of how sound can be used in a variety of ways to help children develop.

Bean says, "Music therapy increases self-confidence - handicapped children discover, perhaps for the first time, that they have abilities." Bean, having made a special study of music therapy techniques used to help children with cerebral palsy, feels that emotional involvement in sound frequently stimulates these children beyond the physical limits which normally bind them. He gives, as a typical example, a severely disabled adolescent who was not motivated to do anything, but after six months of music therapy was able, back in the classroom, to take an interest in educational tools, such as a typewriter.

The profession of music therapy is still in its infancy. The training might be expanded with advantage to a two-year course to include more medical and psychological background to mental and physical disabilities. Today music therapy in schools is almost exclusively practised in special schools. Enormous potential exists for music therapy to be used in mainstream schools to help children who are not handicapped, but have a wide range of behavioural or emotional problems.

David Ward, senior lecturer in music at Dartington College of Art, is organizing the first seminar for music advisers working in special schools, to be held at Dartington from March 21 to 23. For further information ring 0803 882224.

Melody line

Sing! Pupils' Books 1-4, By Garth Rickard and Heather Cox. Teacher's Books 1-4. Macmillan Education. Pupils' Books £1.45, 0 333 35972 0; 0 333 35973 9; 0 333 35974 7; 0 333 35975 5. Teacher's Books £2.95, 0 333 35976 3; 0 333 35977 1; 0 333 35978 9; 0 333 35980 1.

"Hello! Mel's the name, music's the game," says Mel the Melodious Monkey who steers the children through the Singing Together pages of this primary music course. He is joined by a professor and a blue-stockinged grannie character. Between them they introduce and supervise the activity pages that, together with 86 songs, comprise the four large-format books.

The Teacher's Books contain the song melodies and accompaniments, plus little boxes of practical hints and ideas on most pages. The Pupils' Books have the words but not the music on the song pages. Apart from that the layout and illustrations in both books are identical.

The importance of listening is stressed throughout. Listening pages invite the children to listen to sounds around them and to begin to describe and analyse them. These pages also invite the children to make sounds, providing narratives or scenarios as a basis for sound pictures or sound effects.

Note values are introduced through word rhythms and by the end of the course examples include the croquet quaver, dotted croquet and croquet rest in 3, 4 and 5-time. Pickle is introduced through tonic solfa. Do Re Mi are first put into blocks like steps going up and down and by the end of the course tunes like "Merrily we roll along", "This old man" and "Michael row the boat ashore" are notated on a four-line staff. So far, so good, but not far enough. Nowhere in the course are the children introduced to "real" music on a five-line staff, except in Book 2 when a four-bar tune appears. And what about compound time?

Other pages include simple sound exercises and a general introduction to orchestral instruments which the children are invited to group according to type of instrument and method of sound production. The teacher is advised to try to let the children see and hear as many instruments as possible, but further advice and references to recorded music would have been helpful.

The songs are robust, fun, easy to learn and back up the approach to notation in that they are mainly in 3- and 4-time set in major keys. However, it would have welcomed a greater variety of music both in style and origin.

Sing! is described by the authors as "a wide ranging four-book music course for children of primary school age. Each book stands alone, but together they provide a sequential course, expanding experience in singing, playing, listening, pitch and musical notation."

The books for teachers are designed for "anyone with a basic knowledge of the piano or guitar". Indeed, and more detailed guidance, such knowledge is essential. This is a course that requires filling out by the teacher especially in the areas of movement, simple composition and improvisation. Book 1 would make a good starting point with young children, provided they were good readers, but a limited approach fails to fully extend the children.

Jean Gilbert

Prizes are being offered by Middle Eight Music for the best recorded performances of any Music 8 or Classical Music 8 or arrangement. There are four awards: a Junior (under 14) and a Senior (over 14) for each category. The winning schools will receive Middle Eight tee-shirts plus ten Middle Eight kits. The best overall winners will be awarded a £50 voucher to be spent at a music shop of their choice.

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Facing the music

Aelwyn Pugh takes a critical look at the recent HMI report

A recurring criticism levelled at music education in this country is that it lacks structure, direction and coherence. Any attempt to tackle these problems must be welcome. But whether the HMI document *Music from 5 to 16* presents a solution is questionable.

Given the traditionally "laissez faire" attitude of British music teachers, it would be inadvisable to try to prescribe their attitudes too rigidly. This is presumably why HMI have chosen to emphasize discussion and the provision of a framework within which each school "might" develop a music programme appropriate to its own pupils. While there is much to be said for flexibility, there are times when it leads to confusion.

This is certainly true of the proposed objectives, particularly those relating to the primary age range. How, for instance, are teachers meant to interpret such statements as "demonstrate a general awareness of sound"? How does this differ from "demonstrate an awareness of sounds of every kind"? In what way is the latter a development of the previous objective, which it is presumably meant to be, since it relates to an older age group? In turn, how does this prepare the way for developing "discernment about sound as a natural phenomenon and its function as an integral part of the environment"? While such questions remain, these objectives are unlikely to give much direction or coherence.

Another weakness is that the objectives do not always seem to match the given age range. In one paragraph we read that "from about seven years of age, children can be led to experience a sense of achievement as they strive to sing in tune and apply appropriate dynamics". Does this mean that such features can be ignored at the infant stage? Can we really afford to delay "concern for the quality of the vocal sound" until the 7 to 11-year stage?

These are not the only problems presented by the document. Because of differential access to music tuition within and outside school, any class is



Confused objectives for primaries...

likely to include pupils of a wide range of musical abilities and experiences. The authors are clearly aware of this. But, apart from cursory advice offered under the heading "Music to Age 14" and in the list of "Responsibilities of Heads of Department", there is little indication of how schools might deal with such situations. At a time when, in the wake of Warnock and the 1981 Act, schools should be trying to integrate children with mental and physical disabilities into the ordinary classroom, it would also be reasonable to expect some advice on how music teachers might meet such a challenge. Unfortunately this is again lacking.

Equally disappointing is the section on Assessment. Few would take issue with the case made for evaluation, the advice on its implementation or the criticisms of existing procedures. But there are questions, relating to the very basis of the proposed curriculum framework, which remain untouched. What guidelines, for example, might teachers use in deciding when, how and to what extent to intervene in the creative process? On what basis should its products be evaluated? What criteria might pupils themselves adopt when trying to solve problems encountered in creative and interpretative situations? On a purely administrative level, how, if at all, can individual contributions to group activity be assessed? These questions must be faced by anyone trying to bring children "into contact with the musician's fundamental activity of performing, composing and listening". They have been largely ignored in the past. All the more reason, therefore, for HMI to address them here.

A comparison of this document with its predecessor *Music 5 to 13* (1982) shows a growing sensitivity amongst inspectors towards sexist issues in music. At its simplest level, this is reflected in the avoidance of male pronouns in reference to pupils and teachers. Two sections of the current document also suggest ways of improving boys' attitudes to music. But this is not enough. There is also a need to help both boys and girls overcome the cycle of instrumental sex-stereotyping. Furthermore, teachers should be aware of the ways in which music can perpetuate sex-stereotypes in general, through song lyrics for instance. There is a need for HMI to examine this issue far more rigorously if their views are not to smother talent.

The same could be said of their approach to multiculturalism. The authors rightly emphasize the need to expose children to a wide variety of music in order to increase their responsiveness to diverse traditions, cultures and societies. But this might have carried more weight if the musical examples cited under "Method" and

"Content" had not been almost exclusively western. A list of resources where "ethnic instruments" were not confined to bongos, maracas and Indian bells would also have been more convincing.

Nevertheless the decision to include a list of resources is a sound one, if only to make headteachers and L.E.A.s realize that effective music teaching cannot be maintained on a shoestring. The redefinition of the role of primary music specialists is also to be applauded. These might now be expected to possess a wider range of skills, insights and experiences than the indifferent pianistic ability which has too often been the sole criterion for their appointment in the past. Another welcome section is the one which suggests strategies for forging closer links between schools and L.E.A. instrumental services. Unfortunately, it takes little account of the changes forced on to these services by the economic recession. At worst, this has led to the virtual abandonment of peripatetic provision. At best, it has prompted initiatives like the "Tower Hamlets Project", where the ordinary classroom becomes the focus of activity and all children within it are given tuition on sophisticated instruments. It is regrettable that no reference is made to such possibilities here.

Despite this, the advice on administrative matters is generally the most satisfactory feature of the report. As for the rest, it might prompt a detailed reappraisal of attitudes and approaches to the subject in schools. But, judging by the fate of previous DES publications, there is a danger of its leading to no more than a cosmetic rearrangement of existing practices, with the most challenging elements being dismissed as impracticable.

But, in one respect, this report's contribution could be crucial. Since the 1970s, British music education has become increasingly torn between two "dogmas": the traditional, skills-orientated approach underlying the CSE, GCE and grade examination systems and the "Paynter-Swanwick" approach, with its emphasis on free exploration of the medium through Composition, Performance and Listening. Hitherto, the second approach has had only sporadic influence in the classroom. Now, however, HMI have given it their unequivocal support. With the weight of such authority behind it, it should in future gain a firm foothold in our schools. If so, *Music from 5 to 16* will, despite its faults, have marked a turning point in British music education.

Aelwyn Pugh lectures at Sunderland Polytechnic.

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A vital constituent

Geoff Moore on training the non-specialist teacher

"Don't waste time with that music rubbish," said a maths teacher to a parent at a fourth year options meeting. "Music," says John Blacking, Professor of Social Anthropology at Queen's University, Belfast, "is too deeply concerned with human feelings and experiences... too often generated by a surprising outbreak of unconscious celebration for it to be subject to arbitrary rules like the rules of games."

What has happened to produce these two attitudes to music? The maths teacher's view arises out of an education geared to clearing away clutter, and Professor Blacking's is the result of his experience of the music of the Venda people of Africa. One is a negative attitude, the other positive, and where better to start changing attitudes than in the primary sector of education?

Talking to primary teachers on a recent music in-service day I became aware that they felt that music was a subject that only a very few people could teach. Their training and subsequent teaching experience had led them to believe that they could not teach music, and usually they relied on a few experienced musicians to do the work for them. Seldom did they ask themselves why it was that so many of their children became involved with music out of school. Seldom did they pause to think for a moment of the role of music in the television serial they were watching.

Young children approach music as

they come to any other subject, keen and eager to take part and experiment. Fortunately, a lot of parents still do sing and play with their children, and teachers in playgroups and kindergartens can build on these early childhood experiences. The atmosphere created by a story can be greatly enhanced by the addition of sound, especially if the children are allowed to contribute ideas of their own. A collection of sound makers can be built up in exactly the same way as we build up colours and textures, and boxes of dressing-up clothes. Right from the start children are at the centre of the sound-making process, and they can slowly progress from home-made instruments to those where there are good playgroups will exhibit a more forward-looking approach when they reach primary school than those from areas where there is no playgroup provision. Music should no longer be an hour a week sitting on the hall floor unable to hear anything because of the noise coming out of the back of the piano. The role of the piano in primary school music is, however, most important. Unfortunately it can be the one thing that stops children from listening and it is often better to sing songs without any accompaniment. Introducing it only when the song is familiar. Even then it must be quiet, sensitive and supportive.

How many teachers have tried to use the piano as a sound maker? It can be a Pandora's box of excitement. Even a sound board with its strings intact can produce wonderful effects and the children come into direct contact with the vibrations. These are the first steps towards new listening techniques and the desire to compose and play.

At a recent festival of music in Newark I watched fascinated as a group of children volunteered to come forward and play instruments whilst their friends sang familiar songs. Their concentration, determination, invention and enjoyment were only too obvious. I am tempted to ask why such excitement so often ends when children reach the junior school? Is it to do with our desire to force them to become instrumental and choral virtuosi as soon as possible? Is it the threat of "noise deafness" and the emphasis on producing high class performances that destroy music for increasing numbers of our pupils? Surely now is the time to change our attitudes considerably and look at music as a vital constituent of education, and not just a subject for the chosen few. Upon entry to the junior school we might do well to think about the way boys seem to fade out of music-making, feeling quite mistakenly that they will be considered unmusical if they carry a violin of flute case to school.

The concept of music consultancy is at present outlined in courses for teachers at Nottingham and Reading Universities. I hope, indeed, into music teaching that vital musical excitement that is required if the subject is to

win its way into the centre of the school curriculum. Consultancy means just what it says. It is designed to help teachers feel less isolated and to enable them to work freely with their colleagues in their own school and in neighbouring primary and secondary schools. Primary teachers need to know how to develop their music-making so that it links with all the other subjects they are teaching. It is a depressing experience to meet teachers who still hanker after curriculum courses firmly geared to the specialist musician, for it is classroom music-making with and through the children that is important.

Consultants learn by experience how to use music as a central feature of their everyday teaching. They discover that in order to learn to play an instrument you may need to explore its possibilities as a creative sound producer. Link the recorder with electronics and there is an entirely new sound perspective just waiting to be explored. A specialist degree in music might even impede this kind of developmental experience and while the value of the music specialist cannot be discounted he or she must be trained to see music at the primary stage as part of the whole curriculum.

If the new 16-plus examination is to achieve what is hoped for, then it must be supported fully from both ends of the educational system. Teacher trainers must take up the challenge and make certain that music is no longer left entirely to the specialist. It is as central to the training of all primary teachers as any other subject in the curriculum.

Geoff Moore is vice chairman of the UK Council for Music Education and Training.

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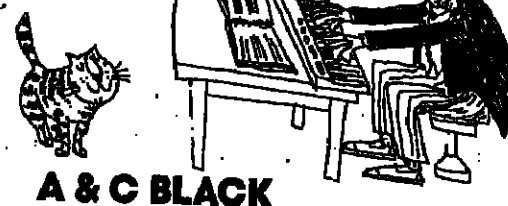
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Rock on the dole

Nick Baker finds
rock is becoming
respectable

Lunchtime at Culcheth County High School near Warrington and two rock bands, made up mostly of fifth formers, are rehearsing. The Main Event end their session with a song called "At the Peak", which finishes on one of those sudden, surprise endings that DIs fear. Then it's the turn of the second band, The Song, who launch into a ghostly ballad called "Johnny the Docker", full of images of urban decay. The standard of musicianship is high, the material is all original and the atmosphere is one of determined discipline. The day before, both bands learned that they were through to the regional final of the TSB Rock School competition, to be held this month in Manchester.

For both bands, their performance at Rotters Club is to be their first real experience of a live audience. While all the young musicians are happy to get this far, their eyes will be fixed on the National Final, to be held at the Camden Palace on April 2nd.

The TSB Rock School competition is largely (but by no means completely) responsible for rock's emergence in the secondary curriculum. The competition itself has been running for six years, and for four of those it's been backed up by a travelling workshop for teachers and music advisers, originally aimed at helping schools to form and complete. It became clear very soon after the workshops started that teachers were keen to learn about how they could involve more pop music in their classroom lessons. Now the workshops (modified for colleges, of further education this year because of the teachers' dispute) dispense information about where to get good value instruments, how to approach original composition, strategies for listening to rock in the classroom, and a general "grammar of rock music. Rock, by the way, is the word. "Rock 'n' roll" conjures images of greasy guitars and repetitive riffs; "Pop" conjures images of Radio 2.

It would be wrong to think that at Culcheth School rock plays a disproportionately large role in music education and training. For example, head of music John Sheldon estimates that in terms of expenditure on instruments and equipment, he still spends about nine times as much on "orthodox" strings and percussion as he does on amplifiers, keyboards and electric guitars and basses. But John Sheldon recognizes an intangible orthodoxy/unorthodoxy barrier in his music education policy at the school. The emphasis is on experiencing a wide range of music: foreign, British,

traditional, classical and modern. Even more so, the emphasis is on playing.

As it on cue, two members of The Main Event play a Miles Davis-inspired adaptation of a Bach Prelude, arranged for bass guitar and electronic keyboard. It could easily be the theme for the next BBC pop thriller. What these and other young musicians have benefited from, apart from a forward looking music curriculum, is sensitive instrumental tuition. Martin Roberts is a visiting instrumental teacher for guitar. For those who want it, he offers "the basics" of the instrument, and is thence happy to take the student where his or her tastes and abilities lead - whether it be towards classical, folk, or rock. For many, the ability simply to "play the guitar" is enough. For others, like the members of the two bands, who have their own creative path to follow, his role is more that of a technical consultant.

The end product in fourth and fifth year music at Culcheth is the joint O level/CSE examination run by the JMB and the North Western examining board, which operates a syllabus that is likely to be emulated by the new GCSE. The syllabus allows 30 per cent of the marks to composition and the same to performance. All of this proportion of the examination can, if the candidate so wishes, be devoted to rock. Inevitably, the marking of such an examination could be heavily influenced by individual moderators' taste. But John Sheldon is quick to point out that original music is as markable as a piece of creative writing or a painting. Dealing with subjectivity is nothing new in the world of public examinations. What the new syllabus may mean is increased pressure on teachers hitherto unversed in popular music to get clued up. Perhaps next year's Rock School teachers' workshops will be

more crowded than ever before.

It's fair to say, meanwhile, that for the members of The Song and The Main Event, the Rock School regional final looms larger than any examination. About a third of their membership see music as a career rather than a pastime. Two or three can't, at the moment, see themselves doing anything else. Others talk of possible "fall back" careers. The Rock School competition can't be blamed for trailing false hopes in front of aspiring rock stars. Amongst the glittering prizes (for the schools involved, as well as the bands) for the competition winners, there is no trace of a recording contract. And in its six-year history, no band has ever, as a result of the Rock School media exposure (of which there is plenty, nationally and locally) "made it to the top". One entrant became a music teacher himself, and now enters his own student bands.

There are plenty of other signs of the growing acceptability of rock music, both as pastime and profession. This academic year saw the introduction of Britain's first vocational rock music course, at Perth College of Further Education in Scotland. The one-year course, for the personnel to make up two fairly large bands, includes tuition in production and sound engineering as well as music. In addition, the number of youth clubs and projects offering tuition, instrument and rehearsal room hire as well as a place to play for an audience grows apace. There's even a chance to finance a rock band by taking advantage of the MSC's Enterprise Scheme. And the threat of unemployment in a professional world crammed full of competitive talent is no longer such a strong deterrent. As one young hopeful put it: "You might just as well be an unemployed rock singer-songwriter as an unemployed anything else."



At Culcheth County High, rock is only one kind of music...

Do they know how to listen?

Wendy-Ann Ensor on music with the very young

"Oh, we can play on the big bass drum. And this is the music to it; Boom, boom, boom goes the big bass drum. And that's the way we do it." Perhaps a six-year-old, can sing this song, pretend to play their drums or even accompany themselves with real percussion, but do they know how to listen? Can they sit down and appreciate a piece of recorded music? Can they recognize familiar tunes and rhythms? Discriminate between high and low, soft and loud?

In many homes there is a constant background of noise, pop music from the radio, TV or cassette recorder. The young child learns how to switch off and ignore noise. The teacher's job is to encourage the child to discriminate between noise and listening.

To develop listening power, children must first learn to concentrate

and then to understand what they are listening to. This can be achieved by talking about the piece after it has been played. Discussion is a useful aid to concentration and should encourage the children to become participators and not just passive listeners.

Cumulative songs and singing games that help to develop the child's memory are always greatly enjoyed. We particularly enjoy "Old MacDonald had a farm" and "I've got a body". Another constant request is "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes", where you keep on repeating the song, missing out an extra item each time until there are no words left.

Memory and listening games all help to make the child more aware of the sounds of the environment. Popular activities include Chinese Whispers,

"Close your eyes and listen. What can you hear?" "Copy rhythms the teacher claps" and guessing the sounds made from behind a screen.

One game, especially useful at the beginning of a new term, is to seat the children in a circle with the teacher clapping out the rhythm of every child's name. Once the teacher has been round the circle she can clap indiscriminately and see if the children respond to their own rhythm.

As concentration develops, discussion can expand. Why does Jane like it, and Emma doesn't? Why does it make Johnny want to get up and march while it makes Jimmy want to clap his hands?

The music corner or table should always be set up in the classroom as this helps the teacher to be aware of the children's musical experiments.

Do they know ...?

continued
can, however, be screened to provide privacy and noise protection. The display should be changed every two to three weeks to prevent boredom and should never be so "overloaded" that it gives the appearance of a jumble sale. Books, charts and pictures of composers, instruments, etc. should have clear illustrations or photographs and be arranged attractively. Percussion instruments can include tambourines, bell sprays, triangles, drums, maracas, cymbals, chime bars and glockenspiel. We also have tulip blocks, a Mexican guiro, a set of wooden ribs and a pair of bongo drums.

If your capitation allowance doesn't stretch to buying bongo drums you can make your own. You will need two pieces of large diameter strong cardboard tubing. Ideally the two lengths should be of differing diameters. Cover these with thick polythene, stretched tightly over the holes and secured with string. Then fasten the two bongos together with strong tape. Shakers (made by filling plastic containers with rice, shells, small pebbles, etc.), half coconut shells, old bones and pieces of wood covered in sandpaper add to the variety. "Twangens" are made by stretching rubber bands, elastic and string over boxes.

The music corner will be a base from which musical activities can be developed. Sound cards such as a lion roaring, a snake hissing, a cat purring and a train puffing can be made and used in games with the children. Sound shapes also help the child to listen. As the child hears a piece of music he or she draws the shape on a piece of paper. The children can then compare their drawings. Do they go up and down at the same time?

Glockenspiel or chime bars can be used to see if the child can discriminate between high and low. When the high notes are played the children stretch as tall as a house; when the low notes are struck they crouch as small as a mouse.

When playing a piece of music for movement an alternative to every child moving is to choose just two or three to make up a dance while the others watch. This can prove most interesting especially as every individual will have a different interpretation.

Ideally, there should be some time for singing each day without accompaniment. The human voice is a very flexible musical instrument and is always with you. TV and radio programmes can also be used to great advantage but should be taped to allow necessary re-play.

During a very wet Spring we decided to explore water, both the wet variety and with a musical bias. We listened and moved to the storm music from *Scheherazade* by Rimsky-Korsakov and we read the story of *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* by Dukas and made puppets. Patrick brought in the story of Noah and the Flood and we sang "Who built the ark?" "I hear thunder" using triangles and bells for raindrops and cymbals for thunder, and we played "Vitava" from *My Country* by Smetana. To this music the children swirled, jumped, rolled, pounded and crashed.

The music table at that time displayed bottles filled with different coloured water to various levels which we tapped with spoons of metal, wood and plastic listening to the difference and then arranging in pitch order.

Finally, listening should extend to the results of the class activities. Tape the children singing, saying finger rhymes and rhythmic poems as often as you can, and play them back. They will love listening to their own voices and will often develop considerable powers of criticism as well as to enjoying the sounds they produce.

Wendy-Ann Ensor is head of the nursery department at Chalfont St Giles Primary School, Buckinghamshire and the author of *Heroes and Heroines in Music* (Oxford).



Aladdin's cave

For versatility and pupil appeal keyboards are hard to beat, says David Biermann

Imagine the following scenario - enthusiastic pupils racing one another to perform the principal themes of "Night on a Bare Mountain", using the correct instrumental timbres.

Keyboards are marvellous instruments to employ in improvised composition work when providing music for subjects such as "Time". "Going to a disco" and "Journey to the moon"; they are equally suitable for use in formal composition (for example, creating music in ABA and rondo form). They can help pupils to learn about different musical genres (blues, rock and reggae as well as serial music and *musique concrète*) in a practical way. In all performing and composing activities, keyboards can be easily combined with other instruments and with dance, drama, painting and video.

When purchasing keyboards for the music classroom, it is important to get a full-sized teacher's "demonstration" model (such as the Yamaha PSR 40) in addition to the smaller (pupils') models. The latter should have a range of about three-and-a-half octaves and should be equipped with *auto-bass* chords (allowing pupils to play major and minor triads and sevenths by pressing down one or two bass notes), *auto-rhythm* units (enabling players to select one from a number of different dance rhythms), *auto-bass* and *auto-rhythm* combinations (providing broken-chord harmonies in conjunction with selected auto-rhythms), *varied instrumental timbres* (giving a choice between different woodwind, brass, strings and keyboard sounds) and sockets for headphones, external amplifier and speakers.

Many recently produced keyboards, including the Yamaha PS 400, the Casio MT 36 and the Bontempi FB 404 16, are eminently suitable models for consideration. Most keyboards can either be run off batteries or multi-input power adaptors which are far less costly to use. Even cheaper systems can be constructed if you gain the assistance of technically skilled colleagues. At my former school in Durham, we constructed 30-keyboard music studio, costing only £250, which was successfully powered by a small car-battery-charger. Ideally, keyboards should be powered by mains for full-class performances, and by batteries for group work.



continued

to specific speeds, enabling the player to concentrate on other aspects of the performance (for example, timbre, volume, use of arpeggiation).

Electronic keyboards possess many advantages over the majority of conventional instruments and synthesizers in classroom music. First, they are considerably cheaper, and are likely to plummet still further in price as the production of component parts becomes standardized. It is possible to set up a keyboard studio catering for one teacher and 30 pupils for less than £3,000, and this includes the cost of multi-power adaptors and leads. Remember that the studio can be profitably used by all the pupils (including those studying for CSE, GCE and GCSE exams) now and for many years in the future. The same amount of money would only purchase three cheap E flat basses or the same number of mid-price analogue synthesizers.

Second, they are easier to play and their varied sounds are attractive and exciting to pupils of all musical abilities. Witnessing the pleasure on the faces of pupils experimenting with keyboards causes one to question why the fun of participating in music should be limited only to pupils who have the ability to play conventional instruments or to understand and organize the complex sonic resources of a music computer or synthesizer.

Third, they can be used to perform and compose in a variety of styles and forms; for example, pupils can learn the melodies and accompaniments of well-known pop and folk songs, like "I just called to say" and "Anne's Song", or use the keyboards to accompany themselves while singing.

Keyboards can also assist in teaching musical literacy and audition. For instance, pupils can play the trumpet part occurring at the beginning of *Also sprach Zarathustra* in conjunction with

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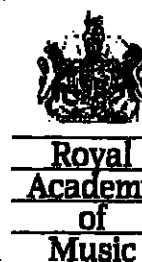
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Aladdin's cave

continued

Recently, keyboards have been criticized in the educational press on three counts. First, the keys on the smaller models are not full-sized and therefore they irritate competent piano players and organists. For such players, however, this is a temporary problem and no more serious than that faced by experienced flautists who revert to descant recorders in order to play 16th-century music.

Second, the range of sounds is limited when compared to that available on the newest music computers and synthesizers. However, most conventional instruments also have a limited range. For example, it is rare for violinists to use more than three-and-a-half octaves, but that particular limit does not preclude them from playing all kinds of music ranging from country and western to baroque.

Third, keyboard players are unfortunately denied some of the pleasures granted to players of conventional instruments; unlike oboists they will never feel the physical thrill of creating a crescendo or varying a vibrato. However, the rewards easily compensate for the disadvantages.

As a result of the popularity of keyboards at my own school, many pupils, who might otherwise have regarded music as an inaccessible Aladdin's cave, are now participating in extra-curricular music activities, such as the keyboard band and the recently-formed 'concert' club. Who can say whether this new-found interest will result in more O and A level music candidates or a greater desire among pupils to visit concerts of classical music. But does that really matter?

David Biermann is director of music at Sir Frank Markham School, Milton Keynes.

An African experience

Susan Jackson learned about Gambian music by visiting the country

If practical music activity is essential to pupils' music education it must also be the key to a teacher's development. Although teaching courses are beginning to respond to the needs of a multicultural curriculum, the resources needed by music teachers in this area are still rare. The topic approach (for example, a term on Indian classical music or Caribbean folk music) is rejected by some teachers and advisers as tokenistic, partly because the available resources are often too superficial and mainly information based.

Involvement in music comes chiefly through singing, playing, dancing and composing. In my experience the best resources for multicultural music have been workshops with visiting or resident musicians, instrumental schemes including non-European and folk music and contributions from pupils themselves. Our community school is enriched by many different cultural backgrounds. Some of the most rewarding lessons are those organized by children sharing a personal family story, demonstrating a dance or showing us how to sing a song or play an instrument in a particular way. It was these experiences which encouraged me to travel to gain some further practical skills.

My solution was to board a plane to Gambia. I took the opportunity of spending two weeks of the Christmas holiday on a traditional music study tour organized by the Commonwealth Institute.

Gambia is a small but culturally rich West African country. Each ethnic group there has its own language and



Susan Jackson and pupils from Gladesmore School play the kora (lute) and balo (xylophone).

musical traditions, but enjoys each other's music and dance. Outside the tourist environment of hotels we enjoyed the spontaneity of entertaining masqueraders and celebrations of family events. The great sporting event of wrestling was not only made more exciting by the incredible commentary but by the accompaniment of at least four groups of drummers. Another contrast was the presentation of the African pop concerts, which were very organized, polished performances of music and dance.

The focus of the tour, arranged by Lucy Duran for the Commonwealth Institute, was the traditional music of the Sine and Mandinka musicians in The Gambia. These hereditary musicians (Jalis) are praise singers and oral historians. The important instruments are the balo (xylophone) and the kora, a 21-stringed harp-lute. The Jalis perform their art with grace and possess a gift for communicating with and responding to their audience.

The musical involvement I really wanted was more than just listening or joining in with dancing; I began to learn to play the kora. With some expert guidance I made a start on its wide repertoire. Much of what I learned was very new to me, but, of course, some of the methods were familiar. Listening is far more important than watching the strings and practice (eventually) makes perfect.

It may seem obvious to state that learning about a culture through books, films, lectures, etc. doesn't compare to being in a country. We learn most through contact with people and places. There were many times in Gambia when just travelling to the next town or village became a huge adventure in itself: the sunshine and picturesque scenes of normal life; people working and relaxing; or giving stirring speeches; children selling peanuts and carrying babies; the Gambia river itself.

The most important objects I

brought back with me were my kora and balo. I also collected valuable resources in the form of recordings and photographs. The trip was a dynamic input to my knowledge and musicianship, which I can now share with my pupils and colleagues. I know I cannot always expect support (moral or financial) in following a musical interest, but in generating the enthusiasm and confidence to perform the music of non-western cultures the development of practical links with musicians here and abroad has been invaluable. Only in this way can music become a thriving part of the multicultural curriculum.

If you want to organize multicultural musical events in your area your regional arts association and the Musicians' Union should be able to advise about local musicians and funding possibilities. They may even do the organizing for you. The following information is a brief introduction to what is available.

The Commonwealth Institute
The CI has a useful library and resource centre of audio-visual material and books. Their education department arranges practical lessons at the Institute. They also organize speakers or musicians to visit schools, usually by arrangement with the local education authority. The study tours are arranged through the Friends of the Commonwealth Institute. Contact: Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 6NQ or Commonwealth Institute Scotland, 8 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2AS.

Arts Worldwide
Arts Worldwide organizes national tours of music and dance groups from non-western cultures. They operate a programme of workshops for adults and for schools with prepared teaching notes. For further information write to: Arts Worldwide, PO Box 119, London N5 2EW.

Museum of Mankind

The museum does not have any specific focus on music, but does have good teaching material, films and a bookshop to complement its exhibitions. Information from: Museum of Mankind (British Museum Dept of Ethnography), 6 Burlington Gardens, London W1.

Traditional Gambian Music
If you would be interested in arranging a performance or workshop by visiting musicians from The Gambia at your school, college or local community centre, then contact me with an s.a.e.: Susan Jackson, Head of Music, Gladesmore Community School, Gladesmore Road, Tottenham, London N15 6TJ.

Publications
"Arts Express" - a monthly magazine (including "The Arts in School Project" (SCDC), UK subscription £13 individual, £17 institutional from Arts Express (Publishing) Ltd, BKT Subscription Services, Dowgate Works, Douglas Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2TS.

"Arrange" - quarterly magazine of the Minorities' Arts Advisory Service, UK subscription £6 from Minorities' Arts Advisory Service, Beauchamp Lodge, 2 Warwick Crescent, London W2 6NE. MAAS also publish a register of artists and groups, price £5 + £1 p.p.

Records and Tapes

"Triple Earth Records" supply mail order records and tapes of traditional world music and popular African music. Send an s.a.e. for a free catalogue to: Triple Earth Records, 116 Whitfield Street, London W1.

Instruments

"Kudum" import instruments from West Africa, mainly xylophones, percussion and traditional drums. Send an s.a.e. to: Kudum, 164 Stockwell Road, London SW9.

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Opportunities Abroad

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"The League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers" arrange exchanges on a post-to-post basis usually for 12 months. Send an s.a.e. to: The League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers, 2nd floor suite, Seymour Mews, London W1H 9PB.

"Goldsmiths' Travelling Grants for Schoolmasters and Schoolmistresses"
Applicants should have at least seven years teaching experience in secondary schools. The grants are to cover a six-month period of leave. Details from: The Clerk of the Goldsmiths' Company, Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, London EC2V 6BN.

Susan Jackson is head of music at Gladesmore Community School, Tottenham, north London.

Where have all the singers gone?

Try cultivating the harmony habit, says Andrew Scott

For many of the millions who watched the Live Aid concert, one of the high points was the performance of the group Queen, in particular the electrifying improvised sung dialogue between Freddie Mercury and the audience. As I listened to the vast crowd of young people getting such a kick out of singing, a question arose: why are so few of them attracted to choirs? The relationship between our schools and choral singing seems divided into two worlds. On the one hand there are superb individual school choirs and areas (such as Sheffield) where real steps have been taken to give singing its proper place in the curriculum; on the other hand, vast numbers of our children are educated in what an ILEA music co-ordinator has termed "the songless desert". Within this degrading relationship one particular hole could be filled painlessly and beneficially - by the introduction of harmony singing in the middle years.

There is no better age at which to inspire harmony-singing than in the 10 to 13 age group and it is here that a shortage of choral interest among the young can best be tackled. Many readers will know of a local primary or middle school where harmonizing is already the norm, but these schools are exceptional; the general assumption is that the ability to hold a harmony line comes late in the sequence of choral skills to be acquired. That this is widely accepted by schools, encouraged at music festivals and cemented by publishers has meant that singers are not considered ready for three or four-part harmony until they have mastered some difficult two-part material, which often means music too high, too wide-ranging and too angular for young voices. It is why so many school choirs spend hours learning to "cover" the top notes; it is why some are boring to be in and painful to listen to; perhaps it is why the Live Aid audience wasn't at choir practice.

The road to this particular hell is regularly surfaced with good intentions. Add to the "two-part trap" the wish to familiarize the young with Great Music, and you get a Mozart aria, a Mendelssohn duet, a two-part 1940s folk-song arrangement - in theory, nourishment for developing minds, in practice, murder for undeveloped voices. Such music, however wonderful, nearly always poses the wrong challenges for under-14s, the vocal range wide and often high, the phrases positively Andriean (soft, strong and far too long), the setting making little use of the words' own rhythms, the music hard for children to memorize because of the way melodic ideas reappear in altered forms.

These adult arias and duets are nevertheless the staple diet for many young choirs, and for those music

festivals which still believe in set pieces. But the next stage after easy two-part harmony should not be difficult two-part harmony; it should be easy three- or four-part harmony. Many children's choir sing rounds in four parts, and would thrive on part-songs designed for their voices, where each voice lies within a carefully limited tessitura (though the overall range can be quite wide), where each vocal line is easily memorized (by being straightforward, repetitive, tuneful), where breathing-places are natural, and - best of all - where the harmony is clear enough for the piece to succeed unaccompanied.

There are not many such part-songs around. Amid all the music recently published for the 10 to 13 age group, much of it extremely imaginative, there has been very little aimed at taking young voices of limited range and flexibility into three, four or more parts. Compared with the work put into instrumental music for young players or into the stylistic up-dating of the vocal catalogue, this is a big gap. It is at its most surprising in the field of Christmas music; the familiarity and harmonic regularity of many popular carols make them ideal for simple vocal harmony arrangements, yet there is precious little available between unison tunes and the SSA versions aimed at ladies' choirs.

One difficulty is that publishers and schools are caught in a vicious circle: the publishers cannot print such harmony arrangements without being sure that there is a market for them, and the schools cannot sing what they cannot obtain. But this hardly excuses our failure in schools to provide a nationwide base for preserving and developing choral singing, a failure made more poignant by comparison with the instrumental progress of recent years. To break out of the trap, publishers must be persuaded that choirs will buy vocal harmony pieces for children, and simultaneously those who run young choirs must be enticed beyond the duet.

Children take to part-singing remarkably quickly, in fact, the ability to hear and hold a line of harmony can

develop from the age of 10 or 11 in most children, given enough experience of doing so. It can be acquired alongside vocal technique, and it needs no more adult pressure than the instilling of other habits, such as good breathing or vowel sounds. Above all, from the teacher's point of view it is easier to get 12-year-olds to sing harmony than, say, 15-year-olds. First, they are at an age of great responsiveness, conceptually developed but without preconceptions. Second, the spread of singing expertise in any group at this age is not likely to be unmanageably wide, unlike instrumental skills which may already have diverged a long way. Third, only a few boys' voices have started to break, and there is less variety of timbre among girls' voices than later; it is easier to blend a young choir than a teenage one.

Ironically, the last point - that children's voices blend comparatively easily - has itself contributed to the tradition of leaving harmony till later, because it tempts teachers into treating all children's voices as similar. This is a major pitfall. Some 12-year-olds adore top Gs, but others prefer bottom Gs, and there are inhabitants of every region in between. Yet much of the singing done in schools, including in assembly, effectively discriminates against the natural alto. He or she not only comes to associate singing with strain, but may end up categorized by teachers as unmusical. One advantage of introducing harmony singing in the middle years - apart from the intrinsic pleasure of it - is to provide low notes for those with low voices.

The long-term advantages are potentially far-reaching: teenagers who have had experience of the harmony habit can take better advantage of both the classical and the pop world, being better equipped for listening and performing. They can appreciate in greater depth all the music they listen to. Joining choral societies, folk clubs, gospel groups, barbershop choirs, rock bands, opera choruses is far less daunting to those who have known since primary school that they can survive on a line other than the melodic line (particularly important for boys coping with a newly broken voice). Even humming along with a favourite song becomes more rewarding when the hummer is not restricted to the tune.

The benefits of developing harmony-singing in the primary, middle and early secondary age group are many and various. The investment required to do it is not one of lavish resources so much as the energy to rethink certain traditions of classroom singing and school choirs. It is an investment which will yield compound interest.

Andrew Scott teaches at Wallace Fields Middle School in Ewell.

Gillian Thomas

Kevin Thompson's Wind Bands and Brass Bands in school and music centre (Cambridge University Press 'Resources of music' series, £4.50 pb, 0 521 27750 7) is a practical manual giving helpful advice on how to start a band, choice of instruments, organization, composing and scoring for bands of different sizes and combinations of instruments. An invaluable reference book for all those involved with bands in every context from the classroom to the community centre.

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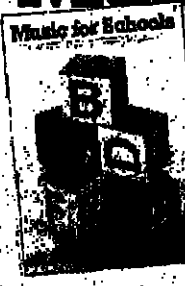
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Hands on recorders

By Iola Smith

As part of a trend in music education to open the curriculum to new technology, Cardiff University Industry Centre has come up with a computer package to teach record playing to infant and junior school pupils. Called *Music Master*, it is a pitch recognition system which enables pupils to progress from basic note learning to composing melodies. It is also a useful primary school preparation for the new GCSE music syllabus, with its tripartite emphasis on listening, performing and composing. All three stages are covered by the system.

Programmed to run on a BBC Micro, the package includes a software disc plus a microphone unit to clip on to a child's recorder. This enables the computer to "listen" to what is being played. *Music Master* translates the pitch and duration of sounds to standard musical notation, and illustrates the score on the screen. Diagrams of fingering patterns are similarly displayed.

notation and fingering. A pupil sounds the notes which appear on the screen, and the computer monitors his success. When each note of the scale has been learned correctly, the child is then ready to play a melody.

Eight melodies are provided in the package, but there is plenty of scope for teachers to add others. Before playing, a pupil listens to the computer's rendering while reading the notes on the screen. Then, the child has a go. The cursor indicates the note to be played and, as it is sounded, the microphone picks it up. Subsequently, the sound is translated into digital form and decoded by the computer which determines whether or not the note is correct. If not, a fingering diagram appears as a prompt. Only when the right note is played will the computer allow the child to progress to the next. Then, after numerous practice runs, the melody will be learned and fluently played.

Eventually, pupils will become sufficiently skilled to compose their own

melodies on the recorder. Simultaneously, the computer will print the notation on the screen, and melodies thus composed may be stored on disc and used to teach classmates who are still on the "learn a tune" stage.

Although pitch recognition systems have been in existence for some 20 years, expensive hardware and software were required to run them. *Music Master* is one of the first packages to have reduced the computing requirements to the level of school microcomputers, and it will become commercially available in April or May, price £46.00.

Overseas interest is also anticipated. The system was featured during Peter's Arts Festival Music Fair, and following its adaptation for Apple computers, it will be piloted in Canadian schools. According to CUIIC, the technology need not be limited to recorder teaching and the intention is to extend its scope to cover other instruments such as the clarinet and flute.

Test case

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the tape, when applicable, or in the accompanying notes.

She has also recorded all the Associated Board's 1986 examination pieces for piano up to Grade 7 as well as the accompaniment for the violin grades, with and without the solo violin part (played by violinist Susan Knight). Accompanied by detailed notes these will also be useful for teachers as an introduction to any unfamiliar pieces.

Working with composer Deborah Broderick, Gillian Spragg has also devised two entertaining cassettes for use with pre-school children. "Music and Movement" introduces the idea of rhythm, inviting them to join in with percussion instruments and actions, while "Concert of Animals" is a story woven round short piano pieces on an animal theme.

Sound Wise, 33 Frihill Gardens, London W12 7JG. Tel: 01-749 7780. Aural tests £8; examination music £8.90; pre-school tapes £8; all including p.p.

Gillian Thomas

Kevin Thompson's Wind Bands and Brass Bands in school and music centre (Cambridge University Press 'Resources of music' series, £4.50 pb, 0 521 27750 7) is a practical manual giving helpful advice on how to start a band, choice of instruments, organization, composing and scoring for bands of different sizes and combinations of instruments. An invaluable reference book for all those involved with bands in every context from the classroom to the community centre.

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"The educational value of the standard school stage production is about the same as colouring by numbers" claims JoAnn Forman, Education Director of New York's Metropolitan Opera Guild. She and her team came over to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden last August to prove her second claim - that "putting on a show" can be made into a wide-ranging creative exercise, extending and challenging children's sense of collaboration and responsibility.

The history of these ideas goes back to 1974, when JoAnn's colleague Bruce Taylor approached JoAnn with the idea of presenting the 8-11 age group, not with a ready-made "let's make an opera", but a term-long process in which everything from the writing to the lighting, carpentry to the electricians, is delegated to the children, with the adult "team leader" acting only as director-in-chief.

Over the last ten years, JoAnn and Bruce have adapted and developed their methods. They themselves have led many projects, visiting schools three or four times a week over a period of anything up to three months. Lately they have been giving regular courses aimed at preparing teachers to handle the projects themselves in their own schools.

It was such a course that the Royal Opera's Education Officer Pauline Tambling - with the dedicated help of Maria Moore of the Friends of Covent Garden and the Educational Board of the Metropolitan Opera Guild, and funding from The Friends of the Royal Opera Company, and Virgin Atlantic - brought to London. Together with a young American composer Roger Tre-fousse and opera singer Willy Drake, Bruce and JoAnn took 19 teachers through a gruelling but rewarding week of lectures, workshops, and discussion. Their impact was dramatic.

JoAnn emphasizes the flexibility of the scheme. "We don't want to be dogmatic, and you don't need a stage, or gifted children, or musical expertise. The things we want are more general qualities: motivation, discipline, and commitment, the spirit of working together towards the common goal of the finished performance. From the beginning, we tell the kids that it's not going to be an out-of-school romp. They come to work and to learn. The project makes an internal part of the curriculum, and we like to work inside normal school hours to make that clear."

There's no archetypal pattern, but a typical project might involve 30 ten-year-olds working six hours a week towards a 30-minute show, containing five short musical episodes. "Forget the word 'opera' if it gets in the way," adds JoAnn. "It's the way the process grows that matters."

First there are proper auditions for the different areas of work, followed by a company meeting at which "job descriptions" are assigned. A small group of writers set to work on a scenario and dialogue. "We don't want derivative material, kung-fu epics or stories based on TV shows," says Bruce. "We ask them to think about things that they care about in their own

Backstage to front-of-house

Rupert Christiansen reports on an opera project



In Felsted County Primary School's opera, costumes are the children's own clothes.

lives, to draw and build on their own experience." Particular emphasis is laid on characterization, and during the course, Bruce shows how this can be done via a series of "method-acting" style improvisations.

On the musical side Roger discusses some simple oral compositional techniques which grow out of ordinary speech rhythms and pitches, as well as avoiding the TV-jingle idea of melody. "Don't be afraid to write bad music!" he advises. Other sessions cover ways to get a relaxed and confident singing-style, sets and costumes, basic electric and carpentry, even publicity.

At every point, there are things for the children to learn through direct experience - lighting teaches the rudiments of electricity, carpentry the importance of precise measurement, for example. "But even more important," says Bruce "is being involved in the experience of inter-acting and collaborating to produce a substantial end-result."

The Covent Garden course was attended by a variety of teachers, some classroom, some music and drama specialists. All of them had found it a testing week, in which they were required themselves to improvise and perform as they would expect their pupils to. Pauline Tambling was overwhelmed. "Normally on a teachers' course, people start loose and come in on the dot, then drift in late and leave as soon as they decently can. This week they're actually coming in earlier every morning and they don't seem to want to go away."

For their part, Americans were particularly impressed with the speed at which the English teachers picked up the approach - despite the occasional transatlantic misunderstanding.

"The Royal Opera House has been marvellous, supporting us throughout. We had a hilarious visit from Ron Freeman, their live master and make-up artist, and we have been up to Covent Garden ourselves. All sorts of other organizations have been involved too - our electrician has been negotiating with ILEA's chief electrician about lighting plans; our press officer has been sending out press releases, and our public relations manager has been in contact with a school in New York involved in a similar project."

"I'm learning a lot too - most of all, not to underestimate children's ability and creativity. Even now, before we're anywhere near finished I can see enormous gains in all areas of the curriculum, and at an even deeper level, in trust and self-confidence and the spirit of co-operation. As far as I'm concerned, the most heartening comment made on the project so far came from a girl who finds all school work difficult. This isn't like school," she said. "It's fun."

Dee has followed the Met's ground-plan relatively closely. Victoria Hind, working with five-year-olds in south London, has taken what she could, with different, but useful results. "The main difficulty for children of this age group," she told me, "is their inability to abstract emotional feelings. They can't hold ideas from one week to the next. But we did get a lot out of visiting the David Hockney exhibition, where we looked at his sets for Ravel's *L'Enfant et les sortilèges* and later listened to the music. What I think the children gained most was a feeling for the magical quality of the theatre, as well as a very practical understanding of the work that makes the magic possible - they loved the tour round the Royal Opera House's wig and armoury departments."

First to finish with a public performance was Felsted County Primary School in Essex. On 6 February, under their class teacher Carol Ann Smith, 29 six to eight-year-olds performed *Inside Feelings Outside* with tremendous success. Carol made all the class collaborate on writing and composing rather than selecting teams, but otherwise found herself able to follow last summer's guidelines, even though they have evolved round an older age-group. The way that the plot-lines and character motivations were developed in class was astonishingly sophisticated, and it was particularly interesting in rehearsal to watch boys take on girls' roles, and vice versa, without any self-consciousness. Carol has had great support from her headmistress, and plenty of interest (as well as a little resistance) from the parents, some of whom came along on the school expedition to the Royal Opera House.

Inside Feelings Outside is a drama of classroom relationships, exploring the way one boy is isolated and victimized. The characters were strongly defined and the way the music was used was genuinely operatic, inner feelings being sung rather than spoken. There was even a rousing ensemble, built round the playground game "Egg, Bacon, or Sausage?"

What one also noticed was the complete absence of flummery - none of the coyness or artifice of the average nativity play. The costumes were the children's own clothes, the dialogue had the ring of authenticity. There was also efficient promoting, lighting, and stage-management, as well as a memorable curtain-call line-up.

Future performances based on the Met project could not be missed. Badgemore Primary School in Hatfield, Bedfordshire will be performing on 14 March the Youth Stars Theatre Company at Rugby Music Centre on 24, 25, 26 March. Dee Russell's group at St Bernadette's School, London SW12 hopes to put on a show at Easter. For full details of school events at the Royal Opera House write to Marketing Dept, Royal Opera House, London WC2E 8DD.

looks a bit sentimental on the printed page, and the music leans a bit that way too, but I know full well that in a crowded and hushed school hall a week before Christmas, this is the sort of thing that people want to see.

Barrie Carson Turner's *David and Saul* is also for junior schools. It is musically quite adventurous, though the singing parts are simple enough for the majority of junior pupils. A school looking for a biblical production might like to look at this one.

Ulysses is a song sequence for 9 to 15-year-olds. It is musically interesting, though considerably demanding, and calls for a soloist with a good voice and a very competent two-part choir. The piano accompaniment is difficult, too. A good performance, though, should be exciting, and this piece might suit a music centre, a secondary school, or a primary school with more than the usual run of resource and experience.

Jackie Robertson's *Willow Pattern* is a musical play for children which is aimed at the junior school. It is a most charming work with delicate and tuneful songs which beautifully match the story. The songs are for soloists and unison chorus; they are well within the capabilities of all juniors and the accompaniments are easy to play. When you consider what good creative teachers could do with the visual side

Gerald Haigh

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CLARENDON SCHOOL
For primary aged children
with learning difficulties.
Hayworth Road, Hampton,
Middlesex TW15 3DH
CURRICULUM CO-ORDINATOR
SCALE 3 (S)
plus £676 Outer London
Allowance
Required for September
1986, a suitably qualified
teacher for the post of Cur-
riculum Co-ordinator. Ap-
plicants should have expe-
rience in developing indi-
vidual learning programmes
and be able to co-ordinate fu-
ture curriculum development
in the school.
Additional skills in
managing, reading or
the use of computers would
be an advantage.
Application forms and
further details are avail-
able from the Director of
Education, Regent House,
100 High Street, Richmond,
London TW9 1AB, returnable to
the Director of Education
on Tuesday 25th March
1986. (17864) 160020

SURREY

LINK SECONDARY DAY

SCHOOL
150 High Street, Epsom,
Surrey CR0 9PD
Teacher required for Septem-
ber 1986 to develop and
coordinate learning for children
with specific learning prob-
lems and associated diffi-
culties. Scale 1 plus special
allowance. Further details from V.E.
Headteacher. 160020
(98275)

SUFFOLK

COUNTY COUNCIL

ST. MARY'S UNIT
St. Mary's Road, Bury St.
Edmunds
(Age Range 13-18)
September
1986. Scale 3 teacher for this
unit for children with learning
difficulties and emotional prob-
lems. The unit is to offer a
more specialist service to
children with learning difficul-
ties. Application forms and fur-
ther details are available from
Area Education Office, Bury
Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suff-
olk, IP11 1JL. (S.A.E.)
Addressed envelope please to
the Education Officer, Bury St.
Edmunds, Suffolk, IP11 1JL
by 4th April 1986. 160020
(17141)

SURREY

RED HOUSE SCHOOL

Brighton Road, Tadworth,
Surrey KT20 7JL
Provided by the London
Borough of Ealing
SCALE 2 (S) plus Fringe
Area London Allowance £358
per annum.
Required for April 1986, a
teacher to take general sub-
jects and to take English with
senior pupils to examination
standards. The teacher should
have Health Education Rural Stud-
ies. Music and Art as well as
be an advantage.
Red House School is a re-
sidential school for senior boys
who have emotional and be-
havioural problems. The needs
of working with children
with emotional and behav-
ioural problems. A flat for a single person is
available. Candidates who wish to make
an informal visit to the school
should contact the Head-
teacher, Tel: 0181 755 3858.
Assistance with relocation
expenses may be payable in
appropriate cases.
Application forms obtain-
able from the Chief Education
Officer, Red House School,
Brighton Road, Ealing, Lon-
don W5 2PU. (S.A.E.)
returned by 26 March 1986.
(02543) 160020

WEST SUSSEX

BOURNEMOUTH

CONNAUGHT COUNTY
SCHOOL
Vineyard Road, Bournemouth
Bournemouth, Dorset BH1 1JL
(Hearing Impaired Class)
Applications for September
1986 from qualified teachers
for the post of Teacher of
the deaf, Scale 3 plus Special
Allowance.
Further details and applica-
tion forms available from Head-
teacher on receipt of a
(17864) 160020

WEST SUSSEX

SOUTHERN

TUTORIAL UNIT, Broadwater
Road, Worthing
Worthing, Sussex BN11 1JL
Required for September a Scale 3
teacher to lead Tutorial
providing for primary and
secondary aged children with
special learning needs.
Further details from Area
Education Officer for Area,
150 High Street, Epsom,
Surrey CR0 9PD.
Re-advertisement: previous
applications will be accepted
and need to re-apply.
Closing date 4th April
(03909) 160020

BERKSHIRE

MARY HARE GRAMMAR

SCHOOL
Arlington Manor,
Enslin, Berkshire RG16
Newbury, Berkshire RG16
Tel: (0635) 248203
A qualified male
Teacher of Science is re-
quired as housemaster of
house from August
1986.
Mansell House is the
boys' boarding house and
some 30 boys will be
in residence. There is a
three bedroomed house
for the housemaster and his fam-
ily, with no charge is made.
The pupils in the school
are all working for G.C.E.
Science, Biology, Chemistry
and/or Advanced Level and
for G.S.E. (from 1988).
The Housemaster would be
expected to take part in
the school's social and
programme specialising in
his own particular subject.
The Housemaster will be
paid an additional £1,500
per annum, on top of the
above. The Housemaster
of the Burnham House will
be determined by the respon-
sibility in the school.
Further details may be
obtained from the Principal,
to whom letters of ap-
plication, together with
curriculum vitae and the
names and address of two
references, should be sent.
Addressed: (0635) 160022

BERKSHIRE

RHS ANDLEIGH SCHOOL

Wokingham RG11 5D
Required as soon as possible
a teacher for the post of
full candidate should have the
necessary experience to teach
groups of disturbed/
disruptive boys aged 11-16.
The person appointed
would be expected to
involve in extracurricular
activities for which the current
allowance is £1,500 per
year. Further details please
contact Mr. P. Francis, as soon as
possible, on Wokingham
Tel: 01356 244444.
Closing date 4th March
1986. Equal Opportunity Au-
thority. (18866) 160020

BIRMINGHAM

LEISURE ACTIVITIES CO-ORDINATOR

FOR THE
VICTORY HANDICAPPED
(2 posts)
£2,300
Alexandra College's
M.S.C. Community Program-
me is seeking two qualified and
experienced individuals to
work as part of a small
team to develop and co-ordi-
nate leisure activities for
visually handicapped stu-
dents in this college, most of
whom are resident.
The posts involve maintain-
ing and extending the range
of activities (social, sporting
and recreational) by personal
initiative and involvement,
the development of Commu-
nity Programmes and the
management of the hiring of
equipment.
Further details and eligi-
bility conditions from: Jane
Alcock, Leisure Activities Co-
ordinator, Queen Alexandra
College, 49 Court Oak Road,
Birmingham, B17
9TG. Tel: 021-427 4577.
(08546) 160022

BRENT

LONDON BOROUGH OF

BRENT DAY SCHOOL
Manor Avenue, NW10 1YQ
Tel: 01-498 8488
Required from 14 April 1986
as soon as possible. CLASS
TEACHER for small group of
young children (5-7 years) in
this primary school for chil-
dren with learning difficulties
(Scale 1 - S.A.). Emphasis is
placed on language develop-
ment. Many of the children
have emotional problems and
need to be taught in a small
group with professional staff
team with professional staff
teaches essential. Visitors are
welcome to see the school
by Friday 4th April.
(19811)
London Allowance of
£1,000 per annum is payable.
Broad area of Equal Oppor-
tunities Employer.
Unless otherwise stated
application forms (S.A.E.)
should be sent to the
Headteacher returnable within 14
days. (02521) 160022

ENFIELD

LONDON BOROUGH OF

DURANT (M.D.) SCHOOL
100 High Street, Enfield EN3 5BY
Roll 113 (Mixed)
Required from September
1986, a teacher (Scale 1) for
small class (16 maximum) of
children with learning difficul-
ties. The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Headmaster, large
envelope, as possible.
An equal opportunity em-
ployer. (02521) 160022

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

MILTON KEYNES AREA

WHITE SPRING
Kiloby Lane, Hitchin, Herts
SG4 7JL
Required from April 1986, for
two teachers (Scale 1) for
small class (16 maximum) of
children with learning difficul-
ties. The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Headmaster, large
envelope, as possible.
An equal opportunity em-
ployer. (02521) 160022

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

EMERGENCY SCHOOL FOR
CHILDREN WITH
LEARNING
DIFFICULTIES
Eastern Close, Eastern
Avenue, Ely, Cambs.
Peterborough PE1 4BP
Required for September 1986
Head Teacher: Mr. P. Tucker
Scale 1 plus special school
allowance. Further details and
application forms available
from the Head Teacher at the
above address. (0438) 160022

CROYDON

LONDON BOROUGH OF

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Temporary Full-time and
part-time teachers are re-
quired for the summer term 1986.
Salary: Scale 1
Tenable: April 1986.
Interested applicants should
send their curriculum vitae to
the Director of Education,
Croydon Education Office,
Croydon CR0 1YJ. (S.A.E.)
These posts are exempt
from the provisions of the
Equal Opportunities Act 1967.
Further details and applica-
tion forms available from
M.C.P. with relevant ap-
plicants. (18866) 160020

DEVON

THE WEST OF ENGLAND

FOR CULTURAL WITH
LITTLE OR NO
ABILITY
Christians Wear, Exeter EX4
6HA
Due to the reorganisation
of the school to include T.E.
facilities and advisory ser-
vice, the following posts
are vacant from September
1986.
SCALE 3a
Suitably qualified and ex-
perienced teacher to work
with a small group of senior
pupils with moderate learn-
ing difficulties.
SCALE 1a
Teacher of Girls Physical
Education and General Multi-
jects.
SCALE 1a
Teacher of Environmental
Studies in CSE and 'O'.
The school is a large, well-
equipped school offering an ad-
vanced woodwork art advan-
tage.
Successful applicants for
the above posts will already
be qualified as teachers of the
subject and will be required to
obtain a minimum three years
training within three years
of appointment.
Letters of application with
curriculum vitae and the
names, addresses and tele-
phone numbers of two
references to be sent to the
Headmaster by Friday 4th April.
(19811)

REDBRIDGE

LONDON BOROUGH OF

ASSESSMENT AND
CO-ORDINATOR
Manford Way, Chiswick,
Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3PH
Tel: 01-560 3418
Teacher-In-Charge, Mrs.
N. Moran
Suitably qualified and ex-
perienced teacher for this
unit for children with learning
difficulties and emotional prob-
lems. The unit is to offer a
more specialist service to
children with learning difficul-
ties. Application forms and fur-
ther details are available from
Area Education Office, Bury
Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suff-
olk, IP11 1JL. (S.A.E.)
Addressed envelope please to
the Education Officer, Bury St.
Edmunds, Suffolk, IP11 1JL
by 4th April 1986. 160020
(17141)

ROTHERHAM

METROPOLITAN

NEWMAN SCHOOL
Required for the be-
ginning of the summer term
1986.
The person chosen must
be capable of running
workshops/studio with
children and young people
and have some experi-
ence in the use of plastic
materials.
The post would require
someone who can develop
approaches to teaching
drawing, sculpture and
individual work pro-
grammes and projects to
pupils who have special
needs and who are aware
of handicaps from the ap-
proach to the work. This
includes some examination
work. There is a design
making, problem solving
and design projects. There
is an interest in tech-
nological work.
Experience in the school
may be an advantage, as would
an interest in the school
and outdoor pursuits.
Closing Date: 24th
March 1986.
Applications by letter
and curriculum vitae and
the names and address of
two references to the
Director of Education,
Rotherham Education
Office, Rotherham,
South Yorkshire, S60
1AA. (01924) 160022

HOUNSLOW

THE MARJORIE KINNON

SCHOOL
Barton Road, Bedford Mid.
MK43 0JL
Tel: 01-250 2034
Two teachers (Scale 1) for
small class (16 maximum) of
children with learning difficul-
ties. The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Headmaster, large
envelope, as possible.
An equal opportunity em-
ployer. (02521) 160022

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL

AREDA SCHOOL
Somerset Street, Mansfield,
Nottinghamshire NG19 5EL
Roll 100 (Primary)
JUNIOR (Scale 1 S.A.)
A class teacher is required
for June and July 1986
for a mixed class of children
with learning difficulties.
The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Head Teacher at the
above address. (0438) 160022

SUFFOLK

COUNTY COUNCIL

AREDA SCHOOL
Somerset Street, Mansfield,
Nottinghamshire NG19 5EL
Roll 100 (Primary)
JUNIOR (Scale 1 S.A.)
A class teacher is required
for June and July 1986
for a mixed class of children
with learning difficulties.
The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Head Teacher at the
above address. (0438) 160022

WEST SUSSEX

SILVER SPRING SCHOOL

Wokingham RG11 5D
Required as soon as possible
a teacher for the post of
full candidate should have the
necessary experience to teach
groups of disturbed/
disruptive boys aged 11-16.
The person appointed
would be expected to
involve in extracurricular
activities for which the current
allowance is £1,500 per
year. Further details please
contact Mr. P. Francis, as soon as
possible, on Wokingham
Tel: 01356 244444.
Closing date 4th March
1986. Equal Opportunity Au-
thority. (18866) 160020

OXFORDSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL

WANK WINK SCHOOL
Wank Wink School, Wank Wink
Road, Wank Wink, Oxford
OX1 1JL
Roll 100 (Primary)
JUNIOR (Scale 1 S.A.)
A class teacher is required
for June and July 1986
for a mixed class of children
with learning difficulties.
The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Head Teacher at the
above address. (0438) 160022

REDBRIDGE

LONDON BOROUGH OF

ASSESSMENT AND
CO-ORDINATOR
Manford Way, Chiswick,
Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3PH
Tel: 01-560 3418
Teacher-In-Charge, Mrs.
N. Moran
Suitably qualified and ex-
perienced teacher for this
unit for children with learning
difficulties and emotional prob-
lems. The unit is to offer a
more specialist service to
children with learning difficul-
ties. Application forms and fur-
ther details are available from
Area Education Office, Bury
Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suff-
olk, IP11 1JL. (S.A.E.)
Addressed envelope please to
the Education Officer, Bury St.
Edmunds, Suffolk, IP11 1JL
by 4th April 1986. 160020
(17141)

ROTHERHAM

METROPOLITAN

NEWMAN SCHOOL
Required for the be-
ginning of the summer term
1986.
The person chosen must
be capable of running
workshops/studio with
children and young people
and have some experi-
ence in the use of plastic
materials.
The post would require
someone who can develop
approaches to teaching
drawing, sculpture and
individual work pro-
grammes and projects to
pupils who have special
needs and who are aware
of handicaps from the ap-
proach to the work. This
includes some examination
work. There is a design
making, problem solving
and design projects. There
is an interest in tech-
nological work.
Experience in the school
may be an advantage, as would
an interest in the school
and outdoor pursuits.
Closing Date: 24th
March 1986.
Applications by letter
and curriculum vitae and
the names and address of
two references to the
Director of Education,
Rotherham Education
Office, Rotherham,
South Yorkshire, S60
1AA. (01924) 160022

HOUNSLOW

THE MARJORIE KINNON

SCHOOL
Barton Road, Bedford Mid.
MK43 0JL
Tel: 01-250 2034
Two teachers (Scale 1) for
small class (16 maximum) of
children with learning difficul-
ties. The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Headmaster, large
envelope, as possible.
An equal opportunity em-
ployer. (02521) 160022

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL

AREDA SCHOOL
Somerset Street, Mansfield,
Nottinghamshire NG19 5EL
Roll 100 (Primary)
JUNIOR (Scale 1 S.A.)
A class teacher is required
for June and July 1986
for a mixed class of children
with learning difficulties.
The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Head Teacher at the
above address. (0438) 160022

SUFFOLK

COUNTY COUNCIL

AREDA SCHOOL
Somerset Street, Mansfield,
Nottinghamshire NG19 5EL
Roll 100 (Primary)
JUNIOR (Scale 1 S.A.)
A class teacher is required
for June and July 1986
for a mixed class of children
with learning difficulties.
The teacher should be
D.P.T. trained and have an
interest in children with SPE-
CIAL NEEDS.
London Allowance, £676
plus Special School Allowance.
Application forms, together
with curriculum vitae, should be
sent to the Head Teacher at the
above address. (0438) 160022

WEST SUSSEX

SILVER SPRING SCHOOL

Wokingham RG11 5D
Required as soon as possible
a teacher for the post of
full candidate should have the
necessary experience to teach
groups of disturbed/
disruptive boys aged 11-16.
The person appointed
would be expected to
involve in extracurricular
activities for which the current
allowance is £1,500 per
year. Further details please
contact Mr. P. Francis, as soon as
possible, on Wokingham
Tel: 01356 244444.
Closing date 4th March
1986. Equal Opportunity Au-
thority. (18866) 160020

SPECIAL EDUCATION

continued

SURREY

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
CAWDEAR HOUSE
118 Upper Chobham Road,
Camberley, Surrey GU15 1JL
Required for September
1986, or sooner if possible.
Scale 1 (plus Special School
Allowance) for the Senior Department
of this school for M.L.D. pupils
aged 5 to 16 years.
The successful applicant
will be fully qualified or be
willing to become so in the
immediate future. The post
requires ability to teach basic
subjects and to lead a team in
the school. A recently reorganised
Area Education Office, 9
Redhill Road, Woking
GU24 7SU (S.A.E.) stamped
envelope please) and are
returnable to the Headmaster
at the school. Closing date 27
March 1986. (05255) 160022

OXFORDSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL

OXFORD LANGUAGE
UNIT
DONNINGTON MIDDLE
SCHOOL
Oxford
Required for September
1986, an assistant teacher
(Scale 1) to support the
children with moderate or
severe learning difficulties
who are fully integrated in
the mainstream. The post
requires ability to teach basic
subjects and to lead a team in
the school. A recently reorganised
Area Education Office, 9
Redhill Road, Woking
GU24 7SU (S.A.E.) stamped
envelope please) and are
returnable to the Headmaster
at the school. Closing date 27
March 1986. (05255) 160022

ROTHERHAM

METROPOLITAN

NEWMAN SCHOOL
Required for the be-
ginning of the summer term
1986.
The person chosen must
be capable of running
workshops/studio with
children and young people
and have some experi-
ence in the use of plastic
materials.
The post would require
someone who can develop
approaches to teaching
drawing, sculpture and
individual work pro-
grammes and projects to
pupils who have special
needs and who are aware
of handicaps from the ap-
proach to the work. This
includes some examination
work. There is a design
making, problem solving
and design projects. There
is an interest in tech-
nological work.
Experience in the school
may be an advantage, as would
an interest in the school
and outdoor pursuits.
Closing Date: 24th
March 1986.
Applications by letter
and curriculum vitae and
the names and address of
two references to the
Director of Education,
Rotherham Education
Office, Rotherham,
South Yorkshire, S60

INDEPENDENT
EDUCATION

continued

LONDON

VIROO FIOELIS CONVENT
Central Hill, Upper Norwood,
London SE19 1JH
Independent Girls School
1-13 years
Required for September
1986
Full-time Assistant Mis-
tress to teach Middle School
Geography and Mathematics.
Including Form IV. Joint
C.E.C. Maths 167.
Apply in writing to Head-
mistress with C.V. and two
references. (185624)

ROME, ITALY

Required for September
1986. Well qualified teachers
for the following subjects: Bio-
logy, Primary. See overseas
appointments for details
(17612)

SURREY

**CONVENT OF THE
SACRED HEARTS**
Epsom, Surrey
Required for Septem-
ber 1986. Full-time
Teacher of Spanish and
R.E. to O' level.

Apply in writing with
C.V. and the names of two
references to the Head-
mistress, The Head-
mistress, The Sacred
Hearts, 2 Dorking
Road, Epsom, Surrey
KT8 1LT. (02454) 185624

SURREY

**THE LINK SECONDARY DAY
SCHOOL**
82 Croydon Road,
Barnet, Surrey CR9 4PD
Required for September
1986. See overseas
appointments for details
(185624)

SWITZERLAND

ALION COLLEGE
The school requires
ASSISTANT TEACHERS OF
SCIENCE and FOREIGN
LANGUAGES. Also LABORATORY
ASSISTANT.
(02451) Overseas Section
(185624)

WORCESTERSHIRE

Required after Easter, at inde-
pendent school, for a full-time
assistant teacher to teach
science and mathematics on
week-end. Preference
offered to a candidate
offering academic subject.
Apply Headmaster, Abbey
Internat. College, New
Wells, Worcestershire
WR14 4JY, with C.V. and
names and addresses of two
references. (02505) 185624

Preparatory Schools

Headships

LEICESTERSHIRE

**LOUGHBOROUGH ENDOWED
SCHOOL**
Lower School (Fairfield)
For January, 1987
Applications are invited for
the Headship of this indepen-
dent co-educational school for
480 pupils aged 4-11 which is
situated in Loughborough High
School building. Both of which
are independent.
The school is housed in a
separate building in pleasant
fields, gymnasium and library.
The academic standard is high
and there is every facility for
an interesting and broad cur-
riculum.
Salary in excess of £9,000.
Further details from the Gov-
ernment, Burton, Leics.
Loughborough, Leics.
Closing date for applications
4th April, 1986.
(185624) 800010

Q.E.D.

EDUCATIONAL
RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS

We are currently seeking to fill the following posts on behalf of
Independent Schools (Preparatory and Senior) in London and
the Home Counties.

APRIL, and/or SEPTEMBER 1986:

- BIOLOGY
- PHYSICS
- GENERAL/NUFFIELD SCIENCE with BOYS' GAMES
- CHEMISTRY
- MATHEMATICS
- APPLIED SCIENCES
- COMPUTER STUDIES
- HISTORY (Full/part time)
- GERMAN/FRENCH
- MUSIC
- RESIDENT TEACHING HOUSEMISTRESS

also TEFL (3 yrs. Exp. - Overseas)

Asst. Matron/Nursery Supervisor

(Residential, NNEB)

P/T Bursar (Ealing)

Qualified Teachers are invited to telephone Q.E.D. in the first

instance.

Please contact Mrs. Damaris Barnes

Q.E.D. No. 27149

By Subject Classification

Art and Design

Other Assistants

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

**CHILTERNHAM COLLEGE
JUNIOR SCHOOL**
IAP 340 Boys Boarding and
Day School. 1986
ART SPECIALIST trained and
preferably experienced re-
quired full time from Septem-
ber, 1986 to maintain and
develop a lively and interest-
ing art room with facilities for
pottery, painting in design and
craft as well as boys' games.
Would be important.
College salary scale above
Burnham.

Only in writing with C.V.
for further details from The
Headmaster, Chilternham Col-
lege Junior School, Philip-
pines Road, Chilternham, Glos.
GL53 7AS. (02905) 201224

OXFORDSHIRE

**MOULSFORD
PREPARATORY SCHOOL**
Required for September 1986
a person to be responsible for
the teaching of Art. The ability
to teach games is essential.
There should be no other clas-
sroom subjects offered.

Applications in writing, give-
ing details of experience, and
name, address and telephone
number of 3 references should be
sent to the Headmaster,
Moulshford Preparatory
School, Moulshford, Oxford-
shire, Oxfordshire OX10
5HR. (01773) 201224

SURREY

CHINTHURST SCHOOL
Barnet, Surrey
IAP 340 Boys Boarding and
Day School. 1986
Required for September 1986
a person to be responsible for
the teaching of Art. The ability
to teach games is essential.
There should be no other clas-
sroom subjects offered.

Applications in writing, give-
ing details of experience, and
name, address and telephone
number of 3 references should be
sent to the Headmaster,
Chinthurst School, Barnet,
Surrey. (02451) 185624

SURREY

THE PRIORY SCHOOL
Barnet, Surrey
IAP 340 Boys Boarding and
Day School. 1986
Required for September 1986
a person to be responsible for
the teaching of Art. The ability
to teach games is essential.
There should be no other clas-
sroom subjects offered.

Applications in writing, give-
ing details of experience, and
name, address and telephone
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The Priory School, Barnet,
Surrey. (02451) 185624

SURREY

THE PRIORY SCHOOL
Barnet, Surrey
IAP 340 Boys Boarding and
Day School. 1986
Required for September 1986
a person to be responsible for
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There should be no other clas-
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TRESHAM COLLEGE

Lecturer Grade 1 in

PHOTOGRAPHY/GRAPHIC DESIGN

Applications are sought from teachers with training in photography, with a specialization in Photography. You will be responsible for teaching students taking GCE 'O' and 'A' levels elements of Photography and Art Foundation course and non vocational courses for adults.

Lecturer Grade 1 in

SPECIAL NEEDS

BEAUTY THERAPY

ably qualified/experienced staff are invited to apply to teach on a course leading to the award of a Guilds Beauty Therapy Certificate.

Applicants will be visited on non-charge basis and have experience in Beauty therapy techniques in electrolysis & body correction.

Salaries: Grade I £8,207 - £11,037 (under review)

For further details and application forms for any of the posts, please contact:-

The Principal's Secretary,
Barnham College, St Mary's Road, KETTERING, Northants.
Tel: Kettering 86353 ext. 205

Further particulars and application forms, for all posts, are available from the Principal, Mr John Henson, at the following nominated forms should be returned by day 28.05.86, 10.30.86. £20026

**LEICESTERSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

**An Equal Opportunity
Employer**

**MELTON MOWBRAY
COLLEGE OF FURTHER
EDUCATION**
100, Ashfordby Road, Melton
M16 9JH

**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT
SERVICES**

As a result of a restructuring within the College, a vacancy exists for a key appointment in the senior staff. Applicants should have experience in the Further Education Sector, Sixth Form College or post-16 provision schools.

**Salary Scale: HOD Grade
£14,649 - £16,353.**

Further particulars and application forms, returnable within 14 days of this advertisement may be obtained from a free-of-charge recruitment agency, on receipt of a £5.00 fee.

30.05.86 350046

THANET TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following post available from September 1986.

**DEPARTMENT OF HAIRDRESSING &
BEAUTY THERAPY**

SENIOR LECTURER

Salary £11,958 - £15,045

To take responsibility for a variety of educational management duties across the Department in one of the major subject areas of the Department and a teaching qualification preferred.

Application forms and further details relating to the post are available on request from the Principal, Thanet Technical College, Ramsgate Broadstairs, Kent CT10 1PN (telephone 0843 855 410) whom they should be returned by the closing date of 7th April 1986.

LEKENT **COUNTY
COUNCIL**

**SHIRE
NICAL COLLEGE**

CS

Organisation of the G.C.S.E.
Education is essential.

the following subjects: Typewriting, InfoWord Processing.
responsible for the development

STUDIES SECTION.

ES

have a subject specialism with
all levels.
Education is essential

at Industry, Relevant qualifications

be obtained from:
Peterborough Technical Col-
(0432)

OVERSEAS POSTS
continued

MEXICOCITY

THE LANCASTER SCHOOL

This growing bi-cultural school of 450 students, recognised by both the British and Mexican Governments, requires for September 1986:

1. Head of Mathematics, O and A level.
 2. Teacher of Chemistry, initially to O level to plan to A level. Possible Headship.
 3. Teacher of Physics, initially to O level to plan to A level. Possible Headship.
 4. Teacher of Biology, O and A level.
 5. Teacher of Economics, A level. History subsidiary an advantage.
- Desire to learn Spanish and work with Mexican staff important for all posts.
- Two year initial contract. Return flight, school allowance, housing subsidy. Own salary scale. Apply with two references to Mr. McCarthy, 37 Stanhope Road, Croydon, Surrey CR9 3NS. (17626) 460000

SPAIN

IZARRA INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Spain

Requires the following for September

1. Head of Boarding House, 2. Assistant (male and female) to Head of Boarding House, 3. Qualified one-school teachers for 3-5 year old age range to teach in Bilbao section of the college, 4. Qualified infant teacher for 6-7 year olds, 5. Qualified teachers with E.F.L. experience for primary and secondary departments.

Apply with C.V. and photograph to Mrs. A. Izarra, Eduardo Vela 10, 28023 - Madrid, Spain.

Indicate clearly the post applied for. Further information by 460000 (15660)

PAKISTAN

KARACHI GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Mathematics and Physics Teachers required for O and A-level in this English-medium selective school.

All senior Master post available.

1. Minimum two year contract. Free accommodation. Salary by negotiation. Good terms for the right people.
2. Apply to The Principal, Karachi Grammar School, P.O. Box 1388, Saddar, Karachi-3, Pakistan, or Tel. Karachi 712370 between 7.00 and 9.00 GMT for further information. (03661) 460000

PORTUGAL

ST. JULIAN'S SCHOOL

Requires the following staff for September 1986:

(1) SECONDARY SCHOOL - Head of Mathematics, O level Geography teacher, Physics teacher to O level and beyond.

- (2) Three JUNIOR SCHOOL teachers (pupils 7-11 years), possible with experience in Science/Maths or remedial work.
 - (3) First SCHOOL teacher (pupils 4-6 years), ideally a pianist able to teach music; ESL experience advantageous.
- Interviews in London early May.
- For full details and an application form, please send a postcard to The European Council of International Schools, Levent Street, Petersfield, Hants. GU32 3EW. (025297) 460000

TURKEY

MUTLU TEACHERS

Requires the following staff for September 1986:

(1) UNIVERSITY DEGREE

2. Teaching Qualification holder in the T.C.E.L.
3. Good maintained salary by Turkish standards.
4. House Contract Mr. Güner until 31st March 1986. Tel. 01-252 1711. Address: 15 Şişli Road, London NW2, 6-12 2711. Write with C.V. to Mutlu Teachers, 15 Şişli Road, London NW2, 6-12 2711. (17161) 460000

SWITZERLAND

ATIGLON COLLEGE

The Independent (RMC) bilingual school for 550 boys and girls (11-18) in the Canton of Valais wishes to appoint in September:

ASSISTANT TEACHER OF FRENCH

- Applicants must be native French speakers or bilingual in French and German.
 2. A Level.
 3. The post would suit a newly-qualified graduate with two or three years' teaching experience.
- Both posts are for single staff units and are probably residential.

Apply to: at least 'O' Level, preferably also 'A' Level, Statistics and some Computer experience.

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SERVICE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Vacancies for Primary and Secondary Schools

WEST GERMANY, HONG KONG AND CYPRUS
September 1986

PRIMARY POSTS

WEST GERMANY

P1. Advisory Teacher Special Educational Needs (SCALE 3)

P2. Advisory Teacher Environmental Studies/ Science (SCALE 3)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Teachers who have considerable experience in either of these specialist areas within the curriculum for children aged 5-13 years.

The successful candidate in each case will join the SCS (NWE) Advisory Service led by the Senior Adviser and will be attached to a particular school. He/She will work closely with the schools in the region and will offer appropriate advice on organisation, practice and procedures, methods, materials and teaching aids. This will entail teaching alongside colleagues to help them gain insight into appropriate techniques. He/She will hold regular meetings with teachers responsible for SEN or Environmental Studies/Science, throughout the region and assist in In-Service Courses which may be school based or regional.

P3. Infant Co-ordinators (SCALE 3)

It is anticipated that several posts will arise for Heads of Infants/Infant Co-ordinators. Such posts frequently involve, in addition to a class teaching role, responsibility for the leading and co-ordinating of the work of other infant classes and their teachers, as well as liaison with playgroups. SCSA schools are largely committed to the Breakthrough to literacy approach to infant reading, and experience of this must be an advantage.

P4. Art/Craft/Display (SCALE 2)

A number of such posts require to be filled for September with experienced and enthusiastic Art/Craft/Display specialists. As well as responsibility for these aspects of school activity there will be a class teaching role.

P5. Music/Drama (SCALE 2)

These posts require enthusiastic and experienced teachers with specialist ability in both music and drama, to take responsibility for these areas of the curriculum throughout the primary range. Class teaching role.

P6. Language Development (SCALE 2)

These posts require teachers already experienced and qualified in language development, to take responsibility for co-ordinating this area of the curriculum, infant or junior class teaching responsibility.

CYPRUS

P7. Teacher with Responsibility for Early Years Department (SCALE 3)

An experienced and innovative teacher with managerial skills, sympathetic to the needs of young children with a wide range of abilities is required at Akrotiri School (Gp 6). The successful candidate will have a curriculum responsibility for 'Motte and/or Language' in addition to departmental responsibilities. There is an important pre-school liaison role. The ability to play the piano would be a distinct advantage.

P8. Class Teacher with Curriculum Responsibilities (SCALE 2)

An enthusiastic and experienced teacher of junior children is required for Pergamos School (Gp 2). The successful candidate will be able to offer at least one key curriculum area, preferably Language. Some musical ability would be a most valuable asset. Driving licence essential.

HONG KONG

P9. Curriculum Adviser - Mathematics and Computers (SCALE 3)

A well qualified and experienced teacher who has already held responsibilities in these curriculum areas is required at Gun Club School (Gp 6). This is a superbly equipped and very progressive school. The successful candidate must be committed to the ideals of Cudworth and Mathematics 5 to 16, and to child centred experiential learning. Experience across the primary range is necessary. There may be additional management responsibilities for the right candidate.

SECONDARY POSTS

HONG KONG AND CYPRUS

September 1986

S1. Modern Languages - Head of Department (SCALE 3)

St John's School, Episkopi, Cyprus

An experienced graduate of French and/or German is required to take charge of this important department. Both French and German are taught to all pupils in years 1-3 and ideally applicants should also be able to teach both subjects to 16 level (German essential).

S2. English (SCALE 1)

St George's School, Hong Kong

An enthusiastic graduate is required to teach English at all levels in the school including 'O' and 'A' level work. There is a strong Drama department and drama is also used in English lessons.

S3. Chemistry (SCALE 1)

St George's School, Hong Kong

A suitably qualified graduate is required to teach Chemistry to 16 level. The successful candidate will also be expected to teach general science in years 1-3.

S4. PE and Craft (SCALE 1)

St George's School, Hong Kong

Applications are invited from PE Specialists to teach boys PE and some craft throughout the school. The timetable allotment will be 75 PE and 1/2 Craft.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Salary is in accordance with the current Burnham scales. In addition, the London Area Allowance currently £1,038 per annum is payable.

Superannuation normal rights are safeguarded. Foreign Service Allowance. A tax free allowance is payable. Accommodation is normally provided rent free.

Duration of Engagement initially for a period of 3 years. All applicants should normally be resident in the United Kingdom. Applicants should note that the preferred age for all teachers is under 47 at the commencement of the engagement.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunities employer. Requests for an application form and further details should be made to Service Children's Education Authority 20, MOD/S/47, HQ

DAED, Court Road, Egham, London SE9 5NR. (Tel. 01-859 2112, ext 224/206).

The closing date for completed application forms is Friday 4 April 1986.



MEXICOCITY

THE LANCASTER SCHOOL

A growing bi-cultural school of 450 students, recognised by both British and Mexican Governments, requires for September 1986:

(1) SECONDARY SCHOOL - Head of Mathematics, O level Geography teacher, Physics teacher to O level and beyond.

- (2) Three JUNIOR SCHOOL teachers (pupils 7-11 years), possible with experience in Science/Maths or remedial work.
 - (3) First SCHOOL teacher (pupils 4-6 years), ideally a pianist able to teach music; ESL experience advantageous.
- Interviews in London early May.
- For full details and an application form, please send a postcard to The European Council of International Schools, Levent Street, Petersfield, Hants. GU32 3EW. (025297) 460000

SPAIN

IZARRA INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Izarra, Alava, North Spain

HEADSHIP

A Coeducational Boarding and Day School at present mainly for Spanish pupils, the age range 4-18 up to university entrance. Degree, teaching certificate, minimum of ten years' teaching experience with secondary level, very good knowledge of Spanish essential.

Apply in writing with curriculum vitae plus photograph to Mrs. A. Izarra, Eduardo Vela 10, 28023 - Madrid, Spain. (15661) 460000

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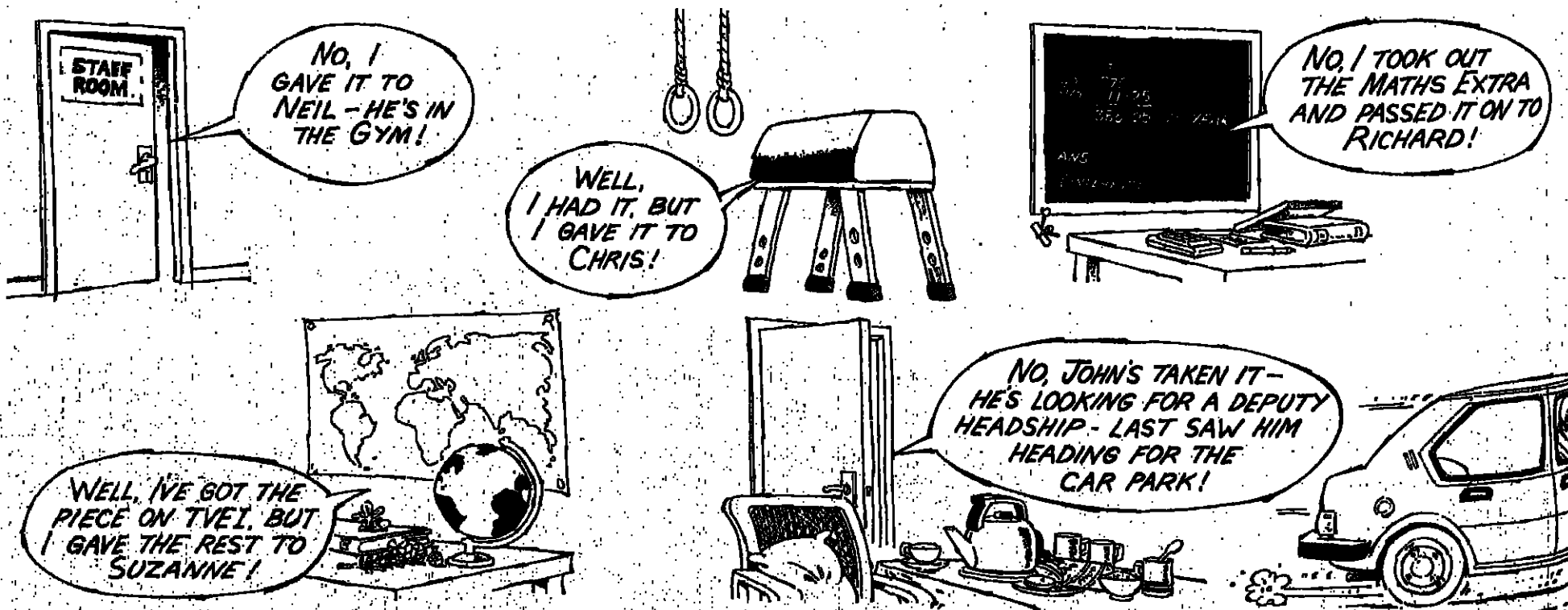
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